Waste Wise Guidelines

St Peter's Primary School

Like all schools, St Peter's Primary School can produce large amounts of waste.

However, it is the aim of this school to send as little waste as possible to landfill. This will lead to financial savings for the school, considerable benefits for the environment, and many opportunities for students to learn environmentally-sound attitudes and habits.

It is also the aim of St Peter's Primary School to have the least amount of litter in the school buildings and grounds. This will make our school more attractive and save money and time in collecting carelessly discarded litter. It is also important from a health viewpoint.

St Peter's Primary School is committed to a whole-school approach to environmental education, of which waste minimisation and litter reduction plays a vital role.

It is the procedure of this school that:

- the strategies of reduce, reuse, recycle and compost will be incorporated in its everyday activities;
- waste minimisation and litter reduction will be included in the relevant areas of the school curriculum; and
- recycled products and others that help reduce waste will be purchased where possible.

Background Rationale

Across Australia, we are running out of landfill space. We are now seeing the devastating impact on the environment and our communities of wasteful practices.

Beliefs

At St Peter's Primary School, we believe in striving towards a world where people value the natural environment and care for their communities. One way we can do this is by becoming Waste Wise, and promoting a policy of:

- **Rethink**
- **Reduce**
- **Reuse**
- **Recycle**

Goals

In implementing our guidelines, we hope to achieve the following goals:

- Develop environmentally sound attitudes, habits and values through WasteSort Program.
- Teach, demonstrate and reinforce the health and safety procedures when participating in WasteSort Programs.
- Educate the School and wider community about the waste wise message.
- Encourage participation of the whole school community.
- Minimise the amount of waste going to landfill.
- Examine and audit the waste collected to reduce and re-educate, where necessary.
- Encourage smarter, eco-friendly thinking about purchasing of products at school and at home,
- Enhance the beauty of St Peter's Primary School,

Outline of Plan

1. Continue placement of paper and hard plastic recycling boxes in every room.
2. Continue weekly collection of recycling bins from rooms and sort into Council Recycling Bins.
3. Continue fortnightly placement of school/council recycling bins on verge for fortnightly collection.
4. Commence classroom responsibility for area clean-up every week - eg, Undercover Roster, Tidy Tuesdays.
5. Encourage the reduction in the amount of paper photocopied - eg, set photocopiers and printers to print both sides as default; continue to email newsletters; develop paper-free teaching methods.
6. Collect and reuse materials for art, craft, science, technology and maths activities, eg, bottle tops, cardboard cylinder rolls, small boxes.
7. Enhance the beauty and cleanliness of the school grounds – eg, extra bins in the play areas; including Containers For Change and Food scraps.
8. Reuse the food scraps collected during the day from canteen and lunches into compost and worm farms – eg, design and build vegie garden with composting area; acquire fridges and worms for worm farms.
9. Recycle and introduce cash collection schemes – eg, collect ice-cream containers, cans, newspapers, ring-pulls, egg-cartons, plastic pot plant containers, Containers for Change.
10. Reduce the amount of energy used by the school for heating/cooling by encouraging systems to be turned off when not in use – eg, lunch time and wearing of appropriate clothing for weather conditions.

Daine Burnett
Principal

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