

Declaration of Commitment

As part of Mindarie Senior College's commitment to sustainability we will endeavor to practise Waste Wise initiatives, promote energy and water efficiency, increase biodiversity in the College gardens and encourage community practices in sustainability through the integration of class work, behaviours and activities across all Learning Areas at the College and in the wider community. In line with the young adult ethos at Mindarie Senior College and the College philosophies of *Pursuing Personal Excellence*, *Building Positive Relationships* and *Demonstrating Social Responsibility*, we are developing our students to become well rounded, confident individuals who possess social and personal competencies. Students will have a strong sense of community, ready to take their place in the world, and will be active citizens who contribute to society in many different ways to ensure sustainability now and for the future.

Aims

1. Energy

- To control energy consumption so we can reduce our impact on the natural environment
- To avoid unnecessary costs associated with wasting energy
- To utilise renewable energies
- To conduct an energy audit and maintain records of our energy consumption
- To educate students, staff and the whole community about the best practice and behaviours for use of energy consuming equipment and services

2. Waste

- To continue the development of a College-wide Waste Wise ethic
- To provide and maintain a healthy and aesthetically pleasing learning environment through the reduction of waste and litter
- To practise Waste Wise principles of reduce, reuse, recycle
- To maintain and improve the College's recycling procedures

3. Biodiversity

- To improve our outdoor natural environment by planting trees, establishing native gardens and continuing the market garden
- To educate the school community about incorporating biodiversity in our everyday life

4. Water

- To prompt actions that will reduce water usage
- To appreciate water as a precious resource
- To maintain and improve the water tanks to allow for rainfall collection and distribution
- To avoid unnecessary costs associated from wasted water / leaks
- To plant trees that are water efficient
- To educate the whole College community about the ways to reduce water usage both indoors and outdoors

5. Teaching and Learning

- To have sustainability integrated across all learning areas in the College
- To ensure all mentor classes engage in sustainability lessons offered by coordinator and "Sustainability Crew" (create a new name with the help of students) badges

Objectives

1. Energy

- To reduce the costs of energy consumption within our College
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- To reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions we create to have a healthier impact on the environment
- To choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available where possible i.e. renewable energies
- To include students in the decision making process of developing an energy efficient College

2. Waste

- To minimise and recycle our waste as much as possible on a daily basis
- To work towards a Waste Wise Café
- To send all food scraps from select classes to the worm farm
- To maintain the compost heap and worm farm
- To incorporate Terracycle stationery in our recycling hub
- To reduce the amount of paper in the College by recycling and reusing it
- To include the students and staff in the decision making process of developing a Waste Wise College

3. Biodiversity

- To create an environmental haven for native fauna and flora
- To choose materials that will have less impact on the environment
- To include staff and students in the decision making process of increasing biodiversity in the College

4. Water

- To reduce the costs of water consumption within our College
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- To collect water from roofs / air conditioner run-off
- To involve staff and students in the planning of water conservation initiatives

5. Teaching and Learning

- Maintaining an outdoor classroom / amphitheatre for all learning areas to utilise
- To incorporate sustainability into all teaching programs across the College
- To develop Sustainability student group Green Team to assist coordinator with mentor lessons and Sustainability Expo and provide leadership opportunities for students
- To develop and maintain sustainability behaviours across the College community

Plan for Program Implementation

1. Energy

- To continue to promote the 'switch off' policy for equipment, lighting and heating once finished with or what is not being used
- To re-invest savings made through conserving energy into alternative / renewable energy sources
- To utilise natural resources for lighting and cooling.

2. Waste

- To collect daily food scrap i.e chook bin scraps, in all Food Science and Technology classes
- To use both sides of the paper and to make note pads with the one-sided recycled paper collected by the Sustainability Green Team
- For each class to dispose of used double sided paper and other recyclables into the co-mingle recycle bins in the classrooms
- To continue to promote designated outdoor eating areas, to keep rubbish in one area
- To engage in bottle recycling scheme
- To conduct an inspection of the College grounds to determine which areas require attention regarding litter
- To use recyclable paper for printing in classroom and office printers
- To maintain and monitor the paper, plastic and aluminum co-mingle recycling bins in all designated eating areas around the College
- To update signage and promote stationery Terracycle at recycling hub
- To position a recycling bin next to all green general waste bins around the College
- To promote Waste Wise packaging and ideas to the College Café
- To conduct waste audits yearly and to collect data and analyse with the PerthWaste data

3. Biodiversity

- To conduct an inspection of the College grounds to determine which areas require attention
- To consult with local community arborists about the best trees to plant in our environment, including natives and indigenous bush foods
- To consult with local businesses about the most effective and environmentally friendly material to use
- To grow and harvest native flora and local fruit and vegetables in the market garden
- To engage students and staff in the development of a biodiversity program

4. Water

- To promote a 'water wise / turn off' policy for plumbing fixtures
- To re-invest savings made through conserving water
- To use the runoff from roofs and air conditioners on the market garden and seedling nursery
- To plant trees that require minimal watering i.e. drought and salt tolerant native species

5. Teaching and Learning

- To engage students in classroom activities and teach behaviours relating to: energy consumption, water usage and efficiency, reduce, reuse, recycle and waste, protection of biodiversity and living sustainably
- To develop active committee of students in Sustainability Green Team
- To showcase sustainable teaching and learning at the Sustainability Expo
- To visit other 'Sustainable Schools' that have adopted sustainability to gain ideas regarding waste, water and biodiversity projects

Community Involvement

We will encourage community partnerships and participation in all projects undertaken, to maintain and improve the sustainability projects, including: Waste Wise, Water Corporation, Tamala Park and the City of Wanneroo.

Responsibilities / Communication

All people within our College will be included in the initiation of, and be responsible for, implementing the above programs. The various committees, including the Sustainability committee, the Sustainability Green Team, the Associate Principals, the Principal and the College Board, will be responsible for keeping records and reporting on the outcomes and progress of these programs and projects to the entire College staff and the wider community through staff forums, the College newsletter and the College website.

Acknowledgement of Support

Sustainability Committee Chair

Principal

College Board Chair