

GREEN EVENTS POLICY

PURPOSE

As a Sustainable School, Tecoma Primary School encourage our community to take ownership and pride in our environment. We aim to achieve this through efficient and considered use of resources, responsible waste reduction and management, development and promotion of biodiversity and integration of sustainability across the curriculum. We will advocate for sustainability and support our school and educators on their journey towards sustainable living.

As a whole school we aim to:

- Embed a proactive approach to conservation and environmental issues
- Promote sustainable practices through the school community regarding responsible energy usage, water conservation, waste management and environmental awareness.
- Monitor and practise sustainable usage of energy and water
- Monitor and minimise waste and implement efficient waste management systems
- Work towards attaining all 5 ResourceSmart School's sustainable stars: Core, Water, Waste, Energy and Biodiversity in partnership with Sustainability Victoria.

SCOPE

The Green Events Policy provides a structure to promote the sustainable use of resources and reduces negative impacts of school events on the environment and human health.

POLICY

During school events the organising committee, staff and students aim:

- To keep waste and litter to a minimum at school events with the aim of making all school events waste free.
- To investigate how school events can have a minimal impact on the environment.
- To minimise resource use at school events.
- To promote the value of living sustainably during school events.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

Advertising

- Consider electronic advertising of the event where possible.
- Ensure printed materials are not laminated so they can be recycled.
- Communicate sustainability actions implemented at the event to attendees and any contractors/vendors (such as bring a keep cup and refillable bottle).
- Promote active transport options.

Green purchasing

- Consider the school's existing Green Procurement Policy when making purchases for the event.
- Consider sustainable fundraising options such as second-hand stalls, and sustainable consumables.
- Consider reducing the purchase of disposable items such as showbags and favours.

Water

- Liaise with the water supplier to establish ways to reduce water usage at the event.

Waste

- Ban single use plastic at the event (as per Victorian legislation February 2023).
- Liaise with local council/waste contractor to ensure sufficient bins at the event.

- Set up a 'waste station' to include recycling, composting, food scraps and landfill and include interpretive signage to ensure correct bins are used.
- Use decorations that are reusable/recyclable.

Energy

- Monitor energy use, particularly from outside vendors, to minimise resource use.
- Encourage outside vendors to use their own solar energy source where practical.

Biodiversity

- Ensure natural habitat areas of the school grounds are protected

Community leadership/sustainability promotion

- Promote sustainability actions implemented at this event to the wider community.
- Include stall holders and stakeholders in the promotional activities.
- Use the opportunity to highlight the school's broader sustainability achievements.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RELATED POLICIES

For further information see the following websites:

- ResourceSmart Schools website at www.sustainability.vic.gov.au
- [Green Procurement Policy](#)
- [Victoria's Environment Protection Amendment \(Banning Single-Use Plastic Items\) Regulations 2022](#)
- ResourceSmart Schools Online: my.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au
- Sustainability Victoria: www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/schools

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

<i>This policy has a review cycle of 2-3 years</i>	This policy was approved by School Council on 11th June, 2024 and is scheduled for review in June 2027 .
<i>Reviewed by</i>	<i>Deb Langford, Rohan Thompson, Di Double, Stuart McLean, Phil Darbyshire, Lisa Hoskins-Faul, Chelsey Robins, Lisa Dell, Kelly Sullivan, Travis Cochrane</i>
<i>Approved by</i>	Principal – Rohan Thompson School Council President – Lisa Dell