

# Frankston High School Sustainability Policy

**Sustainability** is defined as ‘meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.

To this end Frankston High School is committed to becoming a sustainable school so that students’ futures are not compromised. The school aims to achieve this goal by adhering to the following guidelines.

## **Education**

A school’s primary mission is to educate. It is important that sustainability is taught across curriculum with emphasis and importance. Sustainability is required by AusVELS and teachers will use this as a guide to informing their educational content and pedagogy when delivering sustainability related curriculum. In short, sustainability will be taught practically and honestly in different modes across classes.

Staff education is equally important and regular professional development must be provided.

## **Procurement**

This needs to be regulated and assessed annually by the sustainability coordination role. The assessment would include, but not be limited to, monitoring resources procured for use within the school and, based on current knowledge and level of affordability, making recommendations for better choices in terms of long term sustainability. Within reason, as long as the item is similar to the original item request (or a better long term option), it should be purchased as a replacement over the originally requested item/s. Procurement covers every area within the school:

- Faculties
- Office supplies
- Photocopying needs
- Student book lists
- Uniform
- Transport & excursions
- Facility infrastructure
- Student and staff resources
- Computer technology
- Canteen supplies
- Materials (wood, sports equipment etc.)

## **Energy & resource use**

Frankston High School will strive to decrease consumption of energy, water and the generation of litter and dispersal of waste to landfill. This will be achieved through monthly tracking of bills and identification of key areas where resource use is highest, and planning to decrease this use. A large component of this will be regular communication with facets of the school community to instil awareness that a cooperative approach is essential.

### **Biodiversity**

Frankston High School will always maintain 'green' areas as they are essential to students' mental and physical wellbeing and as a way of broadening understanding of the need to live sustainably within our environment. Our aim is to ensure they are bio diverse from an indigenous/local area perspective. This will help ensure low water use and thriving species over the long term. Biodiversity should also be catered for with the use of a reasonable sized 'vegetable' garden. This will aid an increase in student knowledge in different ways;

- Horticultural
- Sustainable
- Economic
- Domestic

### **Publicity & opportunity**

It is important to acknowledge the accomplishments by our students, staff and school community in achieving sustainable goals and to provide opportunities to succeed in this field. We must endeavour to involve students, staff and the greater school community in aspects of sustainability. Successes, and even failures, will be publicised to help promote sustainability as a school priority.

### **Evaluation**

Towards the completion of a school year the policies may need to be further developed or updated. Their relevance and uptake are crucial and will need to be reviewed and evaluated. This is to take the form of a subcommittee responsible for the evaluation, as well as a staff, student and school community survey to judge whether the policy is effective and where efforts need to be extended.

### **Declaration of Commitment**

As part of Frankston High School's environmental commitment we will endeavour to practice waste wise initiatives, promote energy efficiency, reduce water usage, increase biodiversity in the school gardens and encourage practice in sustainability. We will also aim to ensure students are aware of environmental impacts by ensuring it is embedded in curriculum across disciplines.