

## 3.12 Environmental Responsibility Policy

### Policy Statement

The service is committed to ensuring policies and procedures developed as part of the program, minimise environmental impact and provide children with experiences of the natural world, helping them to understand their place in it and to take responsible action to preserve it. The service is also committed to establishing sound environmental practices relating to all operational aspects of the service.

### Procedures

The Coordinator and educators will be encouraged to follow sound environmental practices and understand their role in positive modelling for the children.

Educators work collaboratively with the children and their community to develop and implement sustainable practices related to the service program and routines, including (but not limited to):

- Recycling food scraps
- Using recycled items in craft activities
- Recycling scrap paper for use
- Establishing a garden and using the produce in the service menu
- Collecting rainwater and using it to water the garden
- Establishing composting or worm farms for scraps
- Creating play spaces for children to interact with the natural environment; and
- Undertaking regular reviews of sustainable practices within the service.

Educators will encourage children to be aware of energy efficiency, particularly in relation to the use of lighting, heating and air conditioners.

Information relating to sustainable practices will be accessed and readily available for educators, children and families at the service.

#### References

- Environmental Protection Act 1994 and Regulation 2008
- NQS Area: 1.1; 3.3
- Policies: 3.1 – Educational Program Planning, 3.3 – Educator Practices, 6.5 – Use and Maintenance of Air Conditioning, 8.10 – Employee Orientation and Induction, 9.3 – Communication with Families, 9.3 – Communication with Community, 9.6 – Parent and Community Participation.

Date of Development	Reason for Modification	Date Ratified	Date of Review