

St. Canice's Co-Ed Primary School

Sustainability Policy

School Sustainability Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines our commitment to sustainability, environmental stewardship, and responsible resource use across all aspects of school life. We aim to foster awareness, reduce environmental impact, and embed sustainability into our education, operations, and culture.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students, staff, parents, contractors, and visitors involved in the operations and activities of St Canice's Co-Ed Primary School

3. Key Objectives

We commit to:

- Reducing waste and promoting recycling and reuse.
- Conserving energy and water across school facilities.
- Supporting sustainable transportation options.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable materials and resources.
- Integrating environmental education into the curriculum.
- Maintaining and enhancing natural habitats within the school grounds.
- Monitoring and reporting our environmental impact regularly.

4. Policy Actions

4.1 Waste Reduction

- Implement a comprehensive recycling and composting program.
- Reduce single-use plastics on site.

- Promote paperless communication where possible.

4.2 Energy Conservation

- Install energy-efficient lighting and appliances.
- Encourage turning off lights and electronics when not in use.
- Explore renewable energy sources like solar panels.

4.3 Water Management

- Use water-efficient fixtures.
- Educate students on water conservation practices.

4.4 Sustainable Transportation

- Promote walking, biking, and carpooling to school.
- Provide bike racks and safe walking paths.

4.5 Curriculum Integration

- Include sustainability topics in science, geography, and social studies.
- Host eco-club activities and environmental awareness events.

4.6 School Grounds & Biodiversity

- Maintain a school garden or green space.
- Plant native species and create habitats for wildlife — participate in Forest Schools programme.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **School Leadership:** Ensure policy implementation and review.
- **Sustainability Coordinator** (/Green School Committee): Oversee sustainability initiatives.
- **Teachers:** Incorporate sustainability into lessons and model eco-friendly behaviours.
- **Students:** Participate actively and take responsibility for their environmental impact.
- **Parents and Community:** Support school sustainability efforts.

6. Monitoring and Review

- Conduct an annual sustainability audit.
 - Review the policy every two years and update as needed.
 - Report progress to the school community.
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7. Policy Adoption

The Staff of St. Canice's Co-Ed Primary School has an agreed systematic cycle of review of policies whereby new policies are reviewed after one year and subsequently every three years. In line with this, this policy will be reviewed during the academic year 2026/27, unless changes are required by legislation or other needs arise before then.

This policy was ratified by the BoM of St. Canice's Co-Ed Primary School on 30/9/26

