



etbi
Education & Training
Boards Ireland
*Bord Oideachais &
Oiliúna Éireann*

Broadmeadow Community

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Roll Number: 20529J

GREEN SCHOOL- SUSTAINABLE USE POLICY

**BROADMEADOW COMMUNITY
NATIONAL SCHOOL**



2022/2023

Principal: Miss J. Robinson

The Principal of Miss Jennifer Robinson is responsible for the implementation of this Policy.

Introduction

The most widely used term in attempting to define sustainable development is 'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.' Sustainable development is a continuous, guided process of economic, environmental and social change aimed at promoting wellbeing of citizens now and in the future. To realise this requires creating a sustainable and resource-efficient economy founded on a fair and just society, which respects the ecological limits and carrying capacity of the natural environment. As a school we are looking to implement strategies and processes to support our Earth and ensure we can sustain these as our school grows.

Our Vision at Broadmeadow CNS

Ireland has a well-deserved reputation as a country with a high quality environment in an era of ever intensifying environmental threats. Over the centuries, our natural environment and landscape has provided sustenance to our people, influenced our culture and shaped our identity in a profound way. This ongoing interaction between human activity and the natural environment has evolved in tandem with economic and technological advancement, often with a substantial cost in terms of the human ecological footprint. As a school within Ireland we want to play our part to ensure that we are supporting the overall plan for our Country, as well as ensuring our school is as green as we can be.

We care greatly about environmental issues and as a result we are part of An Taisce's Green School Programme. This involves setting up a committee of teachers, pupils and parents. The aim is to make environmental awareness and action an intrinsic part of the life and ethos of the school. These efforts are awarded through An Taisce's Green Flags for schools.

Aims

- To understand the impact of the actions of people on the environment
- To explore how we can enhance our environment for future generations through energy conservation, reducing waste, composting, recycling and reuse.
- Become aware of the impact of air, water, waste and litter pollution on natural and manmade environments.
- Develop an understanding of conservation e.g. Recycling, energy and water
- Develop a responsible ownership of the classroom and school environment
- Promote alternative methods of transport to and from school e.g. cycling, scooting and walking to school.
- To foster a sense of responsibility for the long term care of the environment and a commitment to promote the sustainable use of the Earth's resources through personal life style and participation in collective environmental decision making.

- To enable the child to live as an informed and caring member of Local, National, European and Global Communities.
- To acquire open, critical and responsible attitudes towards the environment.
- Through explanation, investigation and hands on experiences the children will acquire skills to help care for our environment immediately and have a long term impact.

Promoting Green School's

In order to promote Green School's we will;

- Have a yearly committee that will meet at least three times a year.
- Promote using Social Media and the school website.
- Competitions and certificates.
- School assemblies and promotion of Green School's.
- Policies
- Use of Croke Park time where needed.
- Healthy lunch boxes
- Recycling bins and signage

Recycling

Two bins are located in each room of the school to support litter and waste and recycling.

Paper Bin

1. Cardboard
2. Paper
3. Plastic

Waste Bin

All waste and compost items to be collected here.

Energy

- **Promote turning off lights when not being used or room is empty.**
- **Signage to promote saving energy.**
- **Ensure laptops and electrical equipment are off, especially when school is closed.**

Paper Tray- Staffroom

The staffroom has a paper tray and once a week this paper is taken into the classroom where it is used by the children for free colouring activities or art activities. There is also a campaign within the classrooms that use "G.O.O.S. " box (Good on one side) which is used as a resource.

Paperless Communication

As a school we attempt to make communication through email and social media to reduce the number of items being printed in the school.

National Spring Clean

Once a year the whole school will take part in the National Spring Clean initiative. This involves all the children and staff cleaning up their local area. The Junior Classes will focus on their immediate school environment and the older classes will focus more on the local community e.g. playground, carpark, local green areas.

National Tree Week

Once a year the whole school will take part in National Tree Week. This involves children learning all about trees, how beneficial they are and what can be done to help the trees/ earth. This is linked into the classes curriculum work with art and poetry projects for different classes.

National Walk to School Week

Once a year the whole school take part in National Walk/Bike/Scoot to school Week. This involves children learning about the benefits of exercise, road safety and use of more environmentally transportation. This is linked into the classes curriculum work with P.E. , SPHE, SESE and Learn Together.

Environment

In keeping with our on-going environmental awareness our Healthy Eating Policy will also reduce the amount of litter in the school and will give the pupils an understanding of how people affect the world around them and how they can improve it.

In doing this, we will encourage the pupils to cut down on litter produced by packed lunches e.g. using re- sealable bottles instead of cartons or re-usable airtight containers rather than disposable wrappings.

A large percentage of school waste is composed of organic material (e.g. fruit and vegetable peelings).

Any packaging left over from a child's lunch is brought home in the lunch box for disposal. Any fully uneaten lunch will be sent home so that parents can monitor how much their child is eating.

Curriculum

The school views environmental issues as being fundamental to the curriculum Teachers are encouraged to nurture a respect for the environment in their students

Environmental / Green issues are key elements of both S.E.S.E., S.P.H.E. and the 'Ethics and the Environment' strand of the Learn Together Ethics Curriculum.

Practical issues that we aspire to:

- Turn it off campaign - e.g. water, electricity (lights, computers, CD players etc.).
- Monitor the heating.
- Don't leave windows open if the heat is on.
- Turn off hot water in main building.
- Put litter into the correct bins.
- Recycle, reduce, re-use where possible.

Monitoring who walks, cycles, and scoots to school.

Sharing of Information (GDPR)

On occasion children will transfer in to our school or may transfer from our school to another. In this event the school will seek or share information related to the child/children with the other educational establishments on a need to know basis.

All sharing of information and storage of information at Broadmeadow CNS will be in line with all legislation including GDPR.

This policy is subject to annual review by the Board of Management

Signed: _____ Date: _____