

## **ENERGY SMART SCHOOLS POLICY**

### **RATIONALE**

As part of our environmental strategy, we are committed to the responsible management of resources and will practise energy and water efficiency throughout all our buildings, grounds and equipment, wherever it is cost-effective.

### **DEFINITION**

Energy Smart is concerned with developing sound energy and water saving practices and reducing the energy and water cost burden on the school.

### **PRINCIPLES**

Our policy is to control energy and water consumption to:

- Improve teaching conditions and comfort for students and staff
- Protect the environment
- Avoid unnecessary costs and free up funds for other purposes
- Prolong the useful life of fossil fuels
- Incorporate sound environmental management into the curriculum

The students will be encouraged to practise sound energy management and the school move towards being a practical demonstration of a sustainable energy model.

All persons in our school community will share responsibility for conserving energy and water use within the school and at the Glen Forbes camp.

The school will endeavour to show leadership in energy management, to the wider school community.

The school will have an energy manager, who will report to the Environment Committee, which will in turn report to the School Council.

### **GOALS**

Our long-term goals are to:

- Foster a whole school Energy Smart culture
- Reduce, wherever possible, our water consumption
- Reduce, wherever possible, our dependence on fossil fuels through the use of renewable energy
- Reduce the amount of pollution, particularly CO<sup>2</sup> emissions caused by our energy consumption
- Choose the most appropriate energy resources where possible
- Use these resources as efficiently as possible
- Buy the most suitable energy efficient equipment at the most economic cost
- Reduce the amount of waste material the school produces

Our immediate goals are to:

- Gain control over our energy consumption by reviewing and improving our energy and water use practices
- Reinvest 50% of our savings in new energy reduction measures

### **STRATEGIES**

Pursue the stages in the action plan and update this as required.

### **REFERENCES**

Energy Management Guide for Primary and Secondary Schools.  
Energy Efficiency Victoria

### **DATE**

Endorsed	March 99
Review	2001-2002
Re-endorsed	August 2002
Review policy	2007
Review action plan	2003



## **ACTION PLAN**

During the coming year the following energy management activities will be undertaken:

- Involve teachers and students in a “turn off the lights and computers in empty rooms program”.
- Involve the students in regular energy audit.
- Check present fluorescent lighting. If we are not using efficient triphosphor tubes then these should be incorporated whenever this is cost effective.
- Conduct surveys of electricity, gas and water usage. Use information gained to develop further strategies.
- Monitor use of the heating furnace. Act as deemed appropriate.
- Turn off any unnecessary pilot lights, especially at the end of term in the music and boiler rooms.
- Turn off automatic urns when appropriate.
- Liase with the Canteen Committee to review energy use in the canteen.
- Liase with the Out of School Hours Committee to review energy use out of school hours.
- Provide regular feedback to the community regarding our energy usage.
- Review the strategies and energy usage each year and publish findings.
- Monitor the security lighting time clock and change for daylight saving and the changing time of sunset.
- Review paper usage and work to devise usage reduction strategies.