



## 35 Sustainability Policy

### Policy Aim:

To promote sustainable practices among all members of our preschool, embedding environmental education within our curriculum and daily operations. We strive to foster children's understanding and respect for the natural environment and the interdependence of people, plants, animals, and the land.

### Policy Statement

Our preschool is committed to being a sustainable early learning service by:

- **Embedding sustainability in learning:** Providing regular teaching on recycling, waste reduction, life cycles, gardening, and environmental care.
- **Role modelling sustainable practices:** Staff actively demonstrate energy conservation, responsible water use, and recycling.
- **Creating learning opportunities:** Encouraging children to engage in gardening, composting, junk modelling, and nature play to develop life skills and a connection to the natural world.

### Key Practices

1. **Recycling:**
  - Children are explicitly taught how to use recycling bins.
  - Recycled materials are collected and used daily for construction, dramatic play, and creative projects.
2. **Waste Minimisation:**
  - Communications are shared electronically where possible.
  - Families are encouraged to donate reusable materials.
3. **Energy Conservation:**
  - Lights, fans, heaters, and appliances are turned off when not in use.
4. **Teaching for Sustainability:**
  - Learning topics include life cycles, water conservation, waste reduction, and food production.
  - Children participate in seasonal vegetable gardening and nature-based play.
  - Storybooks and discussions introduce environmental concepts in a child-friendly way.
5. **Sustainable Purchasing:**
  - Preference is given to second-hand or bulk purchases.
  - Environmentally friendly products are chosen where available (e.g., recycled paper, eco glitter).

### Community Engagement

We work with families and the wider community to support sustainable practices through donations, shared resources, and local initiatives that reduce waste and encourage recycling and food sustainability.

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