

MMPS Green Events Policy

Rationale

The Green Events Policy provides a structure to promote the sustainable use of resources and reduces negative impacts of school events on the environment and human health.

School sustainability vision and principles

At Mount Macedon Primary School, we believe that caring for our environment begins with understanding our place within it. We empower every learner to explore, value and care for the natural world, make sustainable choices and take action within our school and wider community. Together, we strive to be responsible custodians of our environment and create a sustainable future for generations to come.

Connection to Place — *We understand and value our connection to the natural world and the place we call home.*

Care & Custodianship — *We care for our environment and recognise our responsibility as custodians of it.*

Learning Through Action — *We turn our learning into meaningful action.*

Responsible Choices — *We make thoughtful choices about the resources we use and the impact we have.*

Collective Responsibility — *We work together to create positive change.*

Aims

- To keep waste and litter to a minimum at school events with the aim of making all school events waste free.
- To investigate how school events can have a minimal impact on the environment.
- To minimise resource use at school events.
- To promote the value of living sustainably during school events.

Implementation

Advertising

- Consider electronic advertising of the event where possible.
- Ensure printed materials are not laminated so they can be recycled.
- Communicate sustainability actions implemented at the event to attendees and any contractors/vendors (such as bring a keep cup and refillable bottle).
- Promote active transport options.

Green purchasing

- Consider the school's existing Green Purchasing Policy when making purchases for the event.
- Consider sustainable fundraising options such as second-hand stalls, and sustainable consumables.
- Consider reducing the purchase of disposable items such as showbags and favours.

Water

- Liaise with the water supplier to establish ways to reduce water usage at the event.

Waste

- Ban single use plastic at the event (as per Victorian legislation February 2023).
- Liaise with local council/waste contractor to ensure sufficient bins at the event.
- Set up a 'waste station' to include recycling, composting, food scraps and landfill and include interpretive signage to ensure correct bins are used.
- Use decorations that are reusable/recyclable.

Energy

- Monitor energy use, particularly from outside vendors, to minimise resource use.
- Encourage outside vendors to use their own solar energy source where practical.

Biodiversity

- Ensure natural habitat areas of the school grounds are protected.

Community leadership/sustainability promotion

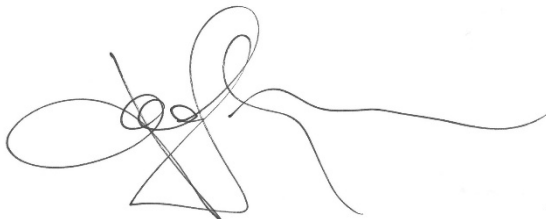
- Promote sustainability actions implemented at this event to the wider community.
- Include stall holders and stakeholders in the promotional activities.
- Use the opportunity to highlight the school's broader sustainability achievements.

Links and documents related to this policy

- Sustainability Policy
- Green Purchasing Policy
- Victoria's Environment Protection Amendment (Banning Single-Use Plastic Items) Regulations 2022
- ResourceSmart Schools Online: my.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au
- Sustainability Victoria: www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/schools

Endorsement

This policy will be reviewed **biannually** or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Ratified by	Joseph Flynn
Title	Principal
Signature	
Date	12/08/2026

Suggested next steps

- Raise awareness about this policy and ensure staff, where appropriate, have access to information on green events.
- Require contractors and event participants to be aware of the current green events policy and meet the aims of the policy within their contracts.
- Establish a system to track and report implementation and outcomes of this policy.
- Actively promote green events policy to the community.

Reach out for assistance

RSS Facilitators can help you:

- plan or promote your program
- locate additional resources that will assist you to complete the module
- conduct audits with students
- organise activities for your student action team
- find networks of like-minded staff and students to support your work
- progress your RSS module completion and certification.

To connect with your local facilitator email schools@sustainability.vic.gov.au

For support with RSS Online email help@resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au

ResourceSmart Schools is a free program offered by Sustainability Victoria that supports Victorian schools to embed sustainability across the school facilities, community and curriculum, while saving resources and money for the school.

To register to become a ResourceSmart School, visit:

<https://my.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au/>

or email schools@sustainability.vic.gov.au