

## Environmental Sustainability Policy

<b>Published</b>	<b>July 2020</b>
<b>Review Date</b>	<b>January 2022</b>
<b>Sources</b>	<p>Education and Care Services National Regulations, December 2019</p> <p>Education and Care Services National Law, February 2018</p> <p>Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations, October 2017</p> <p>Guide to the National Quality Framework, January 2020</p> <p>ECA, "Greening Services: Practical Sustainability", Rachael Kinsella, 2007</p> <p>Environmental Education Services, "Climbing the Little Green Steps", Mia Hughes, 2007</p>

### **Aim:**

To promote sustainable practices in the service environment and in the wider community through fostering in children to respect and care for their environment.

### **Responsibilities:**

#### **In relation to Co-ordination Unit Staff:**

- Be aware of their obligations under the current Education and Care Services National Law, Education and Care Services National Regulations and the relevant National Quality Standards in relation to sustainable practices
- Seek out opportunities to include sustainable practices within the service, including the promotion of the concepts "reduce, re-use and recycle", water and energy conservation and the purchasing of sustainable resources and equipment
- Provide Educators with information and ideas about sustainable practices, and how to incorporate them into their daily program
- Provide information and ideas about sustainable practices to families

#### **In relation to Educators:**

- Abide by their obligations under the current Education and Care Services National Law, Education and Care Services National Regulations and the relevant National Quality Standards in relation to sustainable practices
- Respect the environment in which we live and work diligently towards a sustainable future for our children
- Seek out opportunities to include sustainable practices within their own residence or venue including the promotion of the concepts "reduce, re-use and recycle", and the purchasing of sustainable resources and equipment
- Foster children's capacity to understand and respect the natural environment and the interdependence between people, plants, animals and the land
- Encourage children to develop respect, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment
- Support children in connecting with and caring for the natural environment
- Model sustainable practices, including water and energy conservation as this encourages children to develop positive attitudes and values in caring for their natural environment

- Promote an awareness of environmentally sustainable practices, including ways to reduce, re-use and recycle
- Involve children in environmentally sustainable practices
- Assist children to understand the world around them, including ecology, where food comes from, global and local environmental and social issues appropriate to their age
- Help children to connect with nature, and work towards becoming more environmentally sustainable by incorporating environmental education and practices with play-based learning experiences
- Wherever possible implement safe and sustainable cleaning practices
- Involve parents and the wider community in educating children about sustainable practices
- Utilise resources found in the wider community to promote sustainable practices

### Continual Monitoring and Improvement:

Continual improvement and monitoring will occur in the following ways:

- Incidental and planned consultation with families
- Co-ordination Unit Staff accessing current relevant information
- Co-ordination Unit Staff and Educators accessing current and relevant training
- Internal evaluation of incidences and the improvement of systems

### Policy Review

Date Revised	Comments
February 2014	Scheduled Policy Review – No changes made
August 2015	Scheduled Policy Review – No changes made
February 2017	Scheduled Policy Review – No changes made
June 2018	Update sources
July 2020	Scheduled Policy Review – Added extra information about sustainable practices within the service, changed name of policy to Environmental Sustainability