

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Published	July 2020
Review Date	August 2022
Sources	<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 respect and care for their environment.

Responsibilities:

In relation to the Approved Provider & 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 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", 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 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
- 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
- Approved Provider & Co-ordination Unit Staff accessing current relevant information
- Approved Provider, 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 2017	Scheduled Policy Review – No changes made
January 2019	Scheduled Policy Review – No changes made
July 2020	Scheduled Policy Review – Added extra information about sustainable practices within the service, changed policy name to Environmental Sustainability