NDC Sustainability Procedure

Introduction

Notre Dame College is committed to embedding environmentally responsible practices throughout its operations, curriculum, and community. Using a whole-school approach, we aim to educate and engage all staff and students in sustainability initiatives that reflect our Catholic responsibility to care for the Earth.

Purpose

This procedure outlines the College's approach to integrating sustainability principles into all aspects of school life. It defines our sustainability vision, goals, and key action areas to guide implementation and continuous improvement.

Our Procedure

Vision

"To embed and constantly improve environmentally sustainable practices across all aspects of our College community, and so meet our Catholic responsibility to care for the earth."

Goals

- Educate students with the knowledge and skills to create a more sustainable school and become stewards of the environment.
- Explore opportunities for student involvement in decision-making processes related to sustainability initiatives.
- Reduce the College's environmental footprint through resource conservation and responsible waste management.
- Integrate sustainability education into the curriculum across all subjects.
- Foster a culture of environmental awareness, responsibility, and action throughout the whole school community.

Action Areas

Facilities and Operations

- Implement energy and water conservation measures.
- Install efficient systems and monitor usage.
- Reduce generation of landfill waste and reliance on single-use disposable items.
- Promote sustainable procurement practices.
- Apply sustainability principles in new building projects.
- Ensure outdoor landscaping supports biodiversity and habitat expansion.

Teaching and Learning

- Develop curriculum that integrates sustainability concepts across disciplines.
- Provide opportunities for students to engage in hands-on sustainability education.
- Encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills related to environmental challenges.
- Offer professional development for staff to enhance their capacity to integrate sustainability into teaching and daily practices.

Community Engagement

- Use a whole-school approach involving leadership, staff, students, parents, and contractors.
- Organise events and activities that raise awareness about environmental issues.
- Communicate sustainability policies, initiatives, and achievements regularly.
- Collaborate with external organisations to share best practices and access additional resources.

Review

Next Review

October 2026

Responsibility

Deputy Principal Catholic Identity