

## **ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

### **NQS 3.2.3 February 2018**

Roxby Downs Children's Centre is committed to becoming energy efficient, reducing carbon emissions and reducing our financial expenses in regard to waste management. As a staff team, we will actively seek out alternatives to materials used throughout the Centre and incorporate any that may be more sustainable than those currently used. All staff will ensure sustainable practices are embedded in service operations. This will result in a reduction in the overall waste on a daily basis due to appropriate recycling techniques by staff, children and the contract cleaners.

Children will learn about sustainable practices through the curriculum and the importance of lifelong learning in regard to protection of the environment. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Sustainable Strategy.

### **Implementation**

#### **Compost bins**

When possible, compost bins will be used for fruit and vegetable waste, then layered with sand and /or straw. Autumn leaves may be collected and saved in plastic bags to create compost.

#### **Paper**

We purchase photocopying and computer paper which is made from 100% post consumer recycled waste paper. Staff are encouraged to use both sides of paper when printing, and to avoid printing if possible.

#### **Recycling**

Educators will introduce children to the concepts of recycling, re-using and reducing our overall waste by using games, books and the Smartboard. Recycling bins will be used throughout the Centre for paper, card and other recyclable items and families will be asked to donate materials for the collage and woodwork tables, rather than the Centre purchasing new materials for these experiences. Used printer and toner cartridges and batteries are recycled at The Monitor Newspaper office.

#### **Water Use**

Where possible, Educators and children will use water saving taps to wash their hands. Other taps should not run while children soap their hands. Children will be encouraged to water the garden using water in jugs left over from snack times and emptying the water trough on the garden after play. Water in the sandpit will be monitored by Educators to ensure that it is not wasted. Natural light is used as much as possible. For laundry, we use an outside clothes line.

CREATED: January 2018

REVIEWED:

TO BE REVIEWED: August 2019

SOURCED: "Sustainable Directions" Small Green Steps program 2012