



CLIFTON CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL GREEN PURCHASING POLICY JULY 2009

Definition:

Green purchasing involves considering the environmental, social and financial effects with every purchase made.

Objectives:

By adopting a Green Purchasing Policy, the school aims to:

- Encourage the sustainable use of resources;
- Reduce its impact on the environment (ecological footprint);
- Eliminate unnecessary purchasing;
- Reduce waste to landfill;
- Improve environmental health;
- Improve human health;
- Support sustainable long-term markets for recyclable materials; and
- Contribute to community progress towards sustainability.

The school is committed to:

- the use and purchase of environmentally and socially responsible materials, products and services whenever they: perform satisfactorily,
are safe and
are value for money over the lifetime of the product.
- using the school's Green Purchasing Checklist (attachment 1) when purchasing goods, materials or services to ensure the Green Purchasing Policy is met.
- identifying appropriate products and services and maintaining a list of same, for ease of purchasing
- including green purchasing induction for teaching and non-teaching staff.
- including green purchasing insights in the curriculum through the use of these green materials and other classroom activities.
- informing through newsletters, websites etc, the parents, wider community, suppliers and the whole school population about green procurement initiatives.
- Encouraging the adoption of these practices in the community.

Evaluation:

The Enviro Group will oversee the monitoring and evaluating of this policy.

This will include:

- Annual review of this policy
- Annual comparison of the previous and present year's 'Visual Assessment' (see attachment 2)

GREEN PURCHASING POLICY JULY 2009 – ATTACHMENT 1

CLIFTON CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL GREEN PURCHASING CHECKLIST JULY 2009

To achieve the objectives of this policy the following principles have been established:

- Minimise Unnecessary Purchasing
- Minimise Waste through avoid-reduce-reuse-recycle
- Minimise Toxicity-biodegradable materials or safe disposal systems
- Minimise Habitat Destruction (e.g. old growth forests used for paper production)
- Minimise Soil Degradation
- Minimise Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Maximise Energy Efficiency
- Maximise Water Efficiency
- Maximise Value for Money
- Maximise Fair Trade opportunities
- Maximise the Purchase of Eco- Labelled/ Environmentally Preferred Products/ Services
- Maximise Education for Sustainability opportunities through curriculum and community links
- Maximise Safety
- Maximise local purchases

The following environmental attributes should be considered desirable:

Australian Produced and Made label	Locally manufactured or grown
Biodegradable	Low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) content/ off gassing
Bulk purchasing	Low-toxicity
Carbon Neutral	Lower embodied energy/ water
Carcinogen free	Organic Certification
Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) free	Marine Stewardship Council certified
Compostable	Renewable materials
Durable	Renewable Energy
Endocrine disruptor free	Recyclable
Energy Efficient- high energy star rating	Recycled post consumer content
Environmentally Sustainable Design	Recyclable consumables
Fair Trade certification	Recyclable packaging
Forest Stewardship Council certification	Reduced packaging
Free Range Farmers Association accredited	Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) Free	Refurbished
Good Environmental Choice Australia label	Reusable
Green Power accredited	Upgradeable
Greenhouse Friendly certified	Water Efficient- high WELS rating
Heavy Metal free (eg. no lead, mercury)	
ISO 14001 compliant (or equivalent)	

GREEN PURCHASING POLICY JULY 2009 – ATTACHMENT 2

From: p 149 of ResouceSmart Schools /AuSSI Vic “How to Reduce, Re-use and Recycle Waste in Schools”.

VISUAL ASSESSMENT

Green purchasing

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>needs improvement</u>	<u>sometimes working well</u>	<u>consistently working well</u>	<u>Action or comment</u>
Budgets have green purchasing recommendations				
Green consumable alternatives are purchased when they are cost competitive				
Staff have easy to use proformas to help them with green purchasing				
Staff can obtain help when they have difficulty deciding on green products				
Regular suppliers have been asked to provide green purchasing choices				
Office staff have access to the green purchasing coordinator to revise procedures when they need to be simplified				
Staff and students are using equipment as intended as part of the green purchasing choice				
Staff and students are using consumables as intended as part of the green purchasing choice				
Green cleaning products are being used as intended				
A list if appropriate products and services is maintained.				

Date..... Carried out
by