



Nurturing your joy
Childcare | Kindergarten | OSHCare

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Document Name:	Environmental Sustainability
Review Dates:	January 2025
Review Cycle:	3 yearly
Approved By:	Director
Approval Date	13/02/2025

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

1. POLICY STATEMENT AND/OR PURPOSE

Catholic Early Learning and Care is committed to promoting respect for and an appreciation of the natural environment. We encourage our services to learn about and implement sustainable practices and to foster children's capacity to understand, learn and care for the environment, contributing to a sustainable future.

2. APPLICATION

This procedure applies to all Catholic Early Learning and Care Services in the Diocese of Cairns.

3. PROCEDURE

The Approved Provider will:

- Develop, implement, and maintain policies and procedures to support and promote sustainability within our services.
- Support Nominated Supervisors, wherever possible, in making environmentally friendly decisions about building enhancements and repairs.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- Promote a holistic approach which explores ideas and practices for environmental sustainability.
- Facilitate collaborative partnerships with local community groups, government agencies and private companies to enhance and support all stakeholders learning and experiences about sustainable practices.
- Encourage educators, families, and children to engage in innovative practices.
- Encourage the development of a "reduce, reuse, repair and recycle" culture within the service through:
 - Recycling
 - Gardening
 - Energy Conservation
 - Water Conservation
 - Waste Reduction
 - Sustainable resources/equipment purchases

Educators are encouraged to:

- Connect children to nature through an inquiry-based curriculum approach.

- Share ideas between management, educators, children and families about sustainable practices, experiences, implementation and resources.
- Model sustainable practices
- Implement energy efficiency, water conservation and waste reduction practices by:
 - Turning off lights and air-conditioning when a room is not in use
 - Turning off and unplugging electrical appliances that are not in use
 - Emptying water play containers onto grass or garden areas
 - Encouraging families to pack 'rubbish-free' snacks and lunches, using reusable containers
 - Exploring, discussing and implementing [The 6 Rs - Practical Action](#) within the educational program.

4. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

5. BREACHES OF THIS POLICY

Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against a person who is found to have breached the requirements contained within this document. Action taken will depend on the nature and circumstance of each breach and could include: an official warning and note on the individual's personnel file; a formal written and/or verbal apology; counselling; demotion; transfer; or suspension or dismissal for very serious matters.

6. SEE ALSO

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- Education and Care National Law 2011
- National Quality Framework (QA3)

7. ENQUIRIES

Catholic Early Learning and Care Executive Director - admin@cclc.catholic.org.au

8. APPROVAL



Alison Forster, Director
Catholic Early Learning and Care

Date: 13/02/2025