

Bulli Public School



School Environmental Management Plan 2019

This Plan was written by the Environmental Management Committee

Bulli Public School
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About Bulli Public School

Principal's statement

Bulli Public School is situated between the Illawarra escarpment and coastal fringe. The students, staff and community are committed to reducing the school's environmental footprint. Over the past decade, projects and activities have reflected this commitment that is ongoing and both proactive and reactive to environmental issues and changing research.

School Vision

Bulli Public School is an aspirational learning community where every student is known, valued and cared for. Equity and excellence for all is achieved in an environment that fosters and promotes successful, confident, creative, informed and active citizens.

2019 Projects

Reduce water usage on gardens

Tree management

Additional recycling opportunities

School profile and background

Over the past decade the following has occurred:

- Installation of water tanks, spring loaded bathroom taps, dual flush cisterns (as old cisterns are replaced), air conditioners (thermostatically controlled), external timer lights
- Pruning of gardens in accordance with Safety and Security advice
- Extensive tree management in accordance with Tree Management Guidelines - use of mulch to cover exposed tree roots and garden beds to assist with water retention
- 2013 introduction of Enviro Club: revitalisation of school gardens (pruning, planting designing, watering, mulching and maintaining) including the Reconciliation Garden, Peace Grove, Wadi Wadi and school / vegetable gardens, and the development of new gardens, such as the Anzac Garden and 150th Commemorative Garden using permaculture practices where possible and in accordance with Dep't Guidelines.
- Creation of an outdoor learning space to replace the one that was destroyed with the construction of the school hall
- Involvement in Wollongong City Council initiatives: World Environment Day, Rise and Shine, Plastic Free Wollongong, Compost Competition
- University of Wollongong accessing our garden beds to demonstrate sustainable

gardening practices and lesson plan development to pre-service teachers

- Live Life Well initiatives including reusable containers for food and refillable water bottles
- Crunch and Sip with all fruit / vegetable scraps composted to be used on vegetable gardens
- Kinder Orientation information including reusable containers for food and refillable water bottles
- Health initiatives such as Walk to School Day
- Recycling of paper (P&C fund collection)
- SRC introduction of Low Waste Wednesday in 2017 that has evolved to become Low Waste Everyday
- P&C events recycling cans / bottles at public events, using recycled / recyclable / biodegradable containers
- Canteen using recycled / recyclable / biodegradable containers for Meal Deal Days, food from the vegetable garden if a crop has been planted (eg potatoes)
- Participation in National Tree Day activities

Environmental education achievements

In addition to the above practices / projects, Wollongong City Council Rise and Shine Most Improved School award in 2015.

This plan fits into the whole school planning through the following:

This plan is reflective of our vision with an emphasis on creating active and informed citizens.

Environmental Management Team

The team includes:

Rhonda Morton - Principal

Sue Holz - General Assistant (Certificate 2 Horticulture)

Eric Seymour - General Assistant

Two community members / volunteers - anonymity requested for privacy reasons

NB One community member works directly with the General Assistants completing tasks at their request, such as those required by the Work, Health & Safety Committee

About this plan

Environmental vision

The 2019 Environmental Management Plan seeks to continue and build on those practices that are embedded across the school. Particular consideration will be given to reducing the school's environmental footprint further with proactive steps taken to reduce water consumption and preserve the vegetation that is best suited to our environment.

Focus area goals

Across the focus area the goals of this plan are:

Curriculum

- Year 5 Leadership Project - hall beautification project
- Units of work and lessons that explore:
 - Impact of drought
 - Understanding of biodiversity and different types of natural environments and how humans impact these
 - Waste reduction
 - Climate change

Resource Management

- Installation of drip system in vegetable garden linked to water tank
- Recycling of all paper and purchasing of recycled paper
- Soft plastic recycling
- New equipment purchased to be of a high star rating and / or sleep mode eg photocopiers, laptop chargers

Grounds Management

- Mulching of gardens and exposed tree roots to reduce water evaporation
- Use of trigger hose for cleaning / hygiene purposes and only as needed
- Limited watering of grass
- Responding to Tree Management requests from Assets and/or arborist with mulch reused onsite if appropriate

Whole school planning

Whole school planning will occur on an annual basis as part of the annual review of the school and in conjunction with the relevant committees.

School community participation

Community members / volunteers will be invited to participate in school projects and activities as the need arises. These members / volunteers people may be accessed through the school's data base of parent skills that is collected at the beginning of each school year. This includes, but is not limited to, volunteers with expertise in landscaping, construction and horticulture.

Celebrating progress

Our school will celebrate progress by:

- Recognising the contributions of volunteers at the end of year Volunteer Morning Tea
- Explaining and demonstrating to students how their actions have reduced their personal environment footprint as well as the schools
- Explaining and demonstrating to students how their actions have reduced costs to the school

Action plan

Focus: Reduce water usage on gardens

Outcome: Use of water tanks to water gardens

Overall timeframe: Semester 1

Project	Project management	
Install drip system in vegetable gardens to link directly to water tank behind computer laboratory	Timeframe	Before end Term 2
	Resources	School funds to purchase equipment
	Responsibility	General Assistants
	Monitoring Procedure	Time line met

Project	Project management	
Year 5 Leadership Project - develop gardens to beautify hall and to enable each class to be involved in maintenance.	Timeframe	Before mid Term 4
	Resources	Fundraising and school funds
	Responsibility	Year 5 Leadership Team in consultation with Principal and invited volunteer
	Monitoring Procedure	Time line met

Project	Project management	
Mulching of gardens and exposed tree roots	Timeframe	Throughout the year
	Resources	Purchase approved mulch / use mulch from tree management practices
	Responsibility	General Assistants with assistance from Enviro Club
	Monitoring Procedure	Observation

Focus: Tree management

Outcome: Trees pruned or removed as required with mulch used to cover gardens and exposed tree roots

Overall timeframe: Within 6 months of tree audit (to be conducted mid-year holidays by Assets)

Project	Project management	
Qualified Level 3 arborist to undertake tree works as determined by Assets audit	Timeframe	Within 6 months of report
	Resources	School funds
	Responsibility	WHS Committee, Principal and General Assistants
	Monitoring procedure	Sign off in FMWeb

Focus: Additional recycling opportunities

Outcome: Further reduction in school waste including P&C events

Overall timeframe: By end of year

Project	Project management	
150 th Fete - recycle cans / bottles using Return and Earn	Timeframe	26 July 2019
	Resources	Labelled receptacles
	Responsibility	Parent volunteer
	Monitoring procedure	Return and Earn funds

Project	Project management	
Soft plastic recycling	Timeframe	Ongoing
	Resources	Not required
	Responsibility	Principal
	Monitoring procedure	Observation of garbage volume

Community and environment networks

These groups / organisations may be involved:

Organisation	Type of assistance
P&C	As requested by the school or at their suggestion
Wollongong City Council	Plants for Year 5 Leadership Project
Sustainable Schools Program	Reference to resources for planning, implementation and evaluation

Evaluation

In Term 4, the Environmental Management Committee will meet to evaluate the projects. A review of the current practices, including reference to data sources such as financial accounts, will enable the Committee to commence planning for the following year.