

**SUSTAINABILITY ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY****(BP)****Mandatory – Quality Area 2****CSReg Part 4****POLICY/PURPOSE**

We encourage awareness of environmental responsibilities and implement practices that contribute to a sustainable future. Children are supported to become environmentally responsible and show respect for the environment. Sustainability is often thought about in terms of environmental sustainability—reducing waste, minimising consumption and protecting and conserving wildlife and natural habitats.

SCOPE

This policy applies to Management Committee, Approved Provider, Nominated Supervisor, Staff, volunteers, placements, students and visitors to Centre

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE	IDEAS
1. RECYCLING	Recycling paper & rubbish. Using recycling materials to create resources. Using hand dryers instead of paper towel. Photocopying for art, discouraged, and reuse paper, creative with paper resources.
2. GARDENING	Using recycled material to create resources Planting flowers in old saucepans instead of in plastic pots.
3. ENERGY CONSERVASATION	Minimise use of light, natural light extensive. Turn off lights and switches when not in use. *Hallway and MP room skylights installed. Turning off air-conditioning/ heating when a room is not in use *All doors fitted with draft stoppers/rolls Curtains and blinds used (drawn) in Winter to lessen coldness of window panels. Computers and appliances power turned off when not in use. During closure (School Holidays) fridges emptied and turned off.
4. WATER CONSERVASATION	Water tanks for children toilets & garden. Incorporating water wise strategies ensuring taps are turned off and leaks fixed. Emptying water play containers onto garden areas
5. NATURAL RESOURCES & EQUIPMENT	Reusing natural materials such as trees, blocks, boxes etc for Childcare resources. -Applying an ECO-Friendly cleaning sanitiser (Water & Vinegar) No use of chemicals within Children area.

The Role of Childcare Educators:



Our educators will model sustainable practices by embedding sustainability into all aspects of the daily running of our service operations including:

- Recycling materials for curriculum and learning activities.
- Minimising waste and effectively using service resources.
- Turning off equipment and lights when not in use.
- Using the least hazardous cleaning substance appropriate for the situation, for example, ordinary detergent for cleaning dirt from tables and other surfaces.
- Composting.
- Maintaining a no dig vegetable/herb garden
- Incorporating water wise strategies such as drip irrigation and ensuring taps are turned off and leaks fixed.
- Implementing environmentally friendly pest management.
- Partnerships with Families and the Community

Neighbourhood House Sustainability

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE	IDEAS
6. RECYCLING	Recycling paper & rubbish Using recycling materials to create resources Terracycle boxes: Used beauty, hygiene & metal products. Re use of delivery boxes for file management Specific recycling box in office
7. GARDENING	Specific gardening bin Herb and Vegetable garden Beds Water Tanks Watering
8. ENERGY CONSERVASATION	Turn off lights and switches when not in use (Including Computers) Turning off air-conditioning/ heating when a room is not in use Eco- Power Saving Extension Leads
9. WATER CONSERVASATION	Water tanks for children toilets & garden Incorporating water wise strategies ensuring taps are turned off and leaks fixed. Neverfail Water Dispenser, Saving Tap running.
10. NATURAL RESOURCES & EQUIPMENT	Reusing natural materials trees, blocks, boxes etc

- Partnerships with local environmental groups and services to promote community awareness.
- Promote Community Workshops and auspice local environmental groups.
- Partnerships with Local Schools to enhance and promote environmentally friendly planting.

AUTHORISATION

This policy was adopted by the Approved Provider of Outlets Co-operative Neighbourhood House LTD on 16/06/2020

REVIEW DATE: 23/05/2023