



GREEN PURCHASING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Green Purchasing Policy is to provide a purchasing structure that will reduce Plenty Parklands' negative impact on the environment and promote the sustainable use of resources. PPPS aims to do this by supporting all staff to select products that minimise waste, pollution, habitat loss, toxicity and soil degradation and maximum water efficiency. This policy aims to establish a green purchasing culture in our school's work environment.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff responsible for purchasing need to integrate environmental considerations and value for money (price and performance) into their purchasing decisions, rather than just the cheapest up-front purchase price. Our purchasing decisions can improve markets for environmentally preferred products, enhance environmental quality, be resource responsible and contribute to progress toward sustainability.

GUIDELINES

PPPS prefers to purchase environmentally friendly preferred products whenever they perform satisfactorily and are available at a reasonable price. Purchasing decisions shall be made in the context of the waste hierarchy to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle.

AVOID – Identifying ways of carrying out a function or task without using materials that generate waste. An example is sending information electronically instead of on paper.

REDUCE – Using less in the first place and avoiding waste. Examples of this include purchasing in bulk to reduce packaging and the purchase of printing equipment that prints double sided copies.

REUSE – Using the same item more than once, and extending the useful life of products and equipment before replacing an item. Aim to re-use or repair an existing product. Ensure that new purchases are durable, have a long service life and are easy to maintain and upgrade.

RECYCLE – Purchasing products that contain recycled materials or those that have or can be re-manufactured or recycled.

PPPS will minimise greenhouse gas emissions, habitat destruction, toxicity, soil degradation and maximize water efficiency by purchasing:

- Energy efficient products and materials by checking that the energy rating and efficiency features are the best available for the cost over the lifetime of the product;
- Goods that are produced locally in preference to those that have high kilometers associated with them.
- Paper and wood products obtained from post-consumer recycled, plantation, salvaged or renewable sources as well as being FSC (Forestry Stewardship Council) approved.
- Green cleaning products that don't result in discharges of toxic chemicals to waterways.
- Materials and products that are free of toxic or polluting materials that will not release toxic substances that can affect human health and pollute water, land or air at any stage of their life cycle.
- Products that conserve water or use water in an efficient way.
- Products, materials and services that will not degrade or pollute the soil, or result in erosion through their use.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Green Purchasing Policy are to:

- A. Eliminate unnecessary purchasing;
- B. Reduce our impact on the environment;
- C. Reduce our impact on human health;
- D. Create a better market for environmentally preferred products;
- E. Develop a green purchasing culture throughout our school.

IMPLEMENTATION

To achieve the above objectives, PPPS will:

- A. Discuss this policy with staff to raise awareness of green purchasing options;
- B. Ensure that all appropriate staff have access to information on environmentally preferred products;
- C. Actively promote environmental purchasing to the community.
- D. Encourage staff to find and share information about recycled and environmentally preferable products and specifications.

E. Encourage innovativeness among staff for environmental purchasing.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed in line with best practice, new legislation and guidelines.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2021
Consultation	Sustainability Leaders/Principal School Council
Approved	August 2021
Next scheduled review date	August 2024