

St Joseph's Education Board
2020 Annual General Meeting
Board Committee Report
Sustainability

Subcommittee Members:

Connie Caputo and Mick McCrohan

Objective for the project/committee

- Encourage sustainable living
- Promote sustainable practices at school and in the school community

What has been completed in 2020 (include key products/deliverables)

- We have researched the ResourceSmart Schools program, and been in dialogue with CERES to explore this free government programme and the potential applicability of the programme for St Joseph's. The 1st module (the core module) of this programme (subsequent modules don't need to be undertaken) would create an audit/governance and sustainability architecture for the school community. This requires some ongoing meetings to try to see if it is a programme that St Joseph's can get involved in.
- We have commenced research for water tank grants for the school.
- We created a list of sustainability ideas, resources and links for review for possible future use.

What has not been completed in 2020

- Continue the exploration of the opportunity to get involved with the ResourceSmart Schools programme.
- Continue to explore/obtain water tank grant/s
- Explore the Vic Gov **Schools Water Efficiency Program** <https://www.myswep.com.au/> for applicability to the school.
- Continue/implement some additional sustainability activities in 2021 to the school community.
- Complete a governance document for the school community to define roles and responsibilities of the school community members in sustainability (who is doing what)

Additional information

- Should the committee be Health and Sustainability? To be decided.



Addendum 1 – ResourceSmart Schools

see <https://sustainability.ceres.org.au/resourcesmart/>

Kelsey Smith

Outreach Educator
ResourceSmart Schools Northern Metropolitan Region Coordinator

I work Mon, Wed and Thurs

CERES Community Environment Park

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EDUCATION 



CERES acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this land.



ResourceSmart Schools Sustainability Certification



Core Checklist

What sustainability actions, achievements, plans and policies does your school have in place? This checklist is useful if you are working on the Core Module as part of ResourceSmart Schools Sustainability Certification. It will help you identify what your school is already doing and where there may be opportunities to improve. To complete the Core Module your school needs to complete **ALL 24 actions** from the list below.

A Workplace and operational

This section is about creating a snapshot of how your school is approaching sustainability through gathering baseline data, reviewing curriculum, infrastructure and daily operations and recognising prior achievements and opportunities for improvement. It also helps investigate your school's ecological footprint.

Collecting this data enables your school to make a plan to embed sustainability principles throughout the school and establish a process to track sustainability achievements.

- Has your school signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with a ResourceSmart Schools provider and established an account on www.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au?
- Have you checked your Schools Details page to ensure that the information is correct, including contact details for the school and Sustainability Coordinator?
- Has your school collected and recorded baseline data? Baseline data will need to be recorded for each of the four modules: waste, water, biodiversity and energy.
- Have infrastructure and daily operations at your school been reviewed and recorded?
- Have you documented existing sustainability activities and opportunities for improvement at your school?
- Have you investigated your ecological footprint using an online tool and recorded the results?
- Has your school developed a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) with goals and targets?
- Has your school established a sustainability action plan?
- Has your school included sustainability in at least one of the following: school plan; whole school policy statement; whole school scope and sequence chart; curriculum plan or similar?
- Does your school copy, collate and regularly update bills that are relevant to ResourceSmart Schools and are they stored in dedicated folders e.g. electricity, gas, fuel, water, waste and paper?
- Do you have a process to regularly update your ResourceSmart Schools account with new data e.g. by class groups, student action teams or the planning team?
- Has your school identified green purchasing options and is there a plan in place to have these green procurement processes approved appropriately?

B Learning and teaching

This section is about how you build sustainability into teaching and learning and how you support teachers to embed sustainability into the curriculum.

- Have you completed a curriculum review to check that environmental themes and/or sustainability topics are covered at each level in your school?
- Does your school have a sustainability program and Education for Sustainability (EFS) vision or goal statement, and have these been approved by School Council?
- Has your school established awareness of sustainability issues through professional development for staff?
- Has your school developed a strategy or plan for involving students in leadership roles e.g. student action teams, environmental clubs, student democracy, governance or committees?

C Whole school community engagement

This section is about informing the community about the fantastic work your school has done as well as what is planned. Sharing learnings can keep people motivated, celebrates your school's successes, sets an example for others and demonstrates your leadership in sustainability.

- Has your sustainability program been introduced to the whole school community of students, parents, staff and community supporters and are they involved in the program?
- Has your school formed a sustainability planning team which includes staff, students and the wider community?
- Has your school created a sustainability intranet and/or internet page which is maintained on a regular basis?
- Does your school have a plan in place to develop and upload case studies or learning stories about your school's sustainability experiences to the school's website e.g. your sustainability policy, SEMP or strategy for student involvement?
- Is your school's commitment to sustainability promoted to the wider school community and other schools?
- Does your school produce regular reports (e.g. at least twice a year) on your school's sustainability outcomes and provide them to students, staff and the wider school community?
- Does your whole school celebrate achievements in school sustainability?
- Is an annual report about your school's sustainability achievements (against baseline data) in at least one of the following: annual report on the school plan; formal report to school council; or state or national conference on sustainability?



Addendum 2 – Water Tank Research



WATER TANK: SEARCH FOR AVAILABLE GRANTS

Organisation	Program	Availability	Currently an Option	Next Steps	Contacts
Sustainability Victoria	Various	No relevant grants open	Unlikely	Suggest Carmel registers for updates	sustainability.vic.gov.au/Grants-and-funding
Melbourne Water	Liveable Communities, Liveable Waterways	Ongoing open, new consolidated program	Possible	Called call centre, awaiting call back to confirm if school water tanks included	melbournewater.com.au/water-data-and-education/get-involved/apply-funding/LCLW-program
City of Darebin	Community Recovery Grant	Not applicable, no indication of availability in 2021	Unlikely	Spoke with Roberto 8470 8504	darebingrants@darebin.vic.gov.au
CERES	?	?	?	?	?
Aust. Gov Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment	grants.gov.au	No relevant grants open	Unlikely	Suggest Carmel sign up for New User Registration	grants.gov.au 1300484145
Department of Social Services	Community Grants	No relevant grants open	Unlikely	Find registration process on website	communitygrants.gov.au 132846

Addendum 3 – General Environmental and Sustainability Links



SUSTAINABILITY GENERAL

- Develop a/the school environmental day/week to create focus.
- Organise some presentation/s during this period from some guest presenters on real action being taken on the environment.
- Take real action/fundraise through a couple of projects like
 - make calico bags day (replace plastic bags) and sell.
 - create more / or different garden spaces at the school (i.e. incorporate water tank/s, another garden bed, a rooftop garden, or something else similar.....)
 - Conduct an audit at the school of its current carbon footprint.
 - Implement some actions like passive cooling using shade cloth etc...

OTHER GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Pursue grant opportunities from grant programs through the year that may be accessible for projects, like

Junior Landcare

- <https://juniorlandcare.org.au/grants/>

Darebin Council

Darebin Council 2020/2021 Darebin Community Grants Program

The next 2021/2022 funding round will open in February/March 2021.

For information please call the Community Grants Officer on 8470 8504 or email to Darebingrants@darebin.vic.gov.au