

Eureka Secondary School

EUREKA



Environment/Green Schools Policy

August 2017

Eureka Secondary School is a voluntary Catholic school for girls, under the Trusteeship of CEIST, and under the direction of a Board of Management. The school was first established in the Mercy Convent in 1924, and moved to Eureka House in April 1956.

Mission Statement

Eureka Secondary School aims to provide the highest quality education possible to meet the needs of all students, within the limits of available resources, and within an environment and ethos that promotes Christian values, mutual respect and responsible citizenship.

The school aims to offer opportunities equally to all its students, whatever their ability, circumstances or religious experiences, in order to develop each person's potential to the full. Programmes are provided to facilitate students whose goal is further education; those who wish to enter the world of work; and those who wish to return to full-time study.

The school is committed to maintaining a supportive partnership with parents who are the primary educators of their children; with employers, schools, the local community, and the parishes from which the pupils come.

The staff, the school's most valued resource, are supported and encouraged in their work, and we aim to promote their individual and corporate development through supportive structures and in-service training, both internal and external.

The school is committed to developing a community where mutual respect reigns, where personal standards of work and behaviour are high, and where students grow to recognise fully their responsibilities both to themselves and to others. Our hope is that when they leave school they may be better able to take their place in society as mature and responsible citizens imbued with the Christian values, which are the inspirations of this school.

Rationale

This policy is part of the school's fundamental aim to foster in students a sense of responsibility and to provide them with the skills for life. To develop students who will become mature and responsible citizens. To create an awareness of the environment, and the part that each individual plays in respecting and protecting the environment. To develop a sense of community where mutual respect and consideration reigns.

Aims

- To promote a safe green environment for everyone.
- To develop individual sense of responsibility.
- To reduce the amount of litter in the school.
- To reduce energy bills.
- To reduce the use of water.
- To promote park and stride to the school.

Objectives

A greener school. A greater awareness among all members of the school and the importance of environmental considerations. Ultimately that the school is awarded green flags and maintains them.

Methods

Under the direction of the Environmental Post Holder

Calendar Dates:

Arrange for tours of the local civic amenity centre.

Organise a green week for the school.

Work closely with caretakers and cleaners.

Organise a poster competition.

Enter green schools competitions e.g. Meath Co. Council calendar competition.

Work closely with the Meath Environmental officer.

Elect a green school committee.

Students will be assigned on a rota basis as litter pickers at the end of lunch time. They will be supplied with appropriate gloves and pickers.

Tutors will be provided with information to encourage students to recycle and create a green school environment.

Minimize quantity of paper used across the whole school i.e. among teachers and office staff.

Evaluation of the Policy

The policy will be subject to review annually by the policy working group and school management.

The policy will be evaluated according to the following criteria.

Feedback from staff and students regarding the effectiveness of the policy in achieving the stated aims.

Co-ordinator

It is the duty of the co-ordination to emphasise the importance of environmental issues as an integral part of school life. Along with the class teacher, class tutors and the year heads can stress the importance of a clean environment throughout the school Year.

Students

First year students are obliged to litter pick at lunch time on a rota basis.

The onus is on the students to create a green environment.

A student who participates in extra-curricular activities is expected to find a replacement student for litter duties if the case arises.

Parents/Guardians

It is important that parents/ guardians take responsibility for their role in their student's environmental issues.

Parents/ guardians are encouraged to partake in park and stride activities-to reduce traffic congestion around the school.

Parents/ guardians should encourage students to use recycling facilities around the school.

Teachers

It is important for teachers to take responsibility for their classrooms. Recycling bins have been provided in all rooms.

It is important that teachers monitor their classroom environment and report missing bins to the green schools co-ordinator as soon as possible.

The teacher is entitled to report offending students if a student fails to use waste bins provided.