

## POLICY STATEMENT

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At TWOOSH we encourage and develop the awareness of environmental responsibilities and practices that contribute to a sustainable future. Our goal is to assist the children to learn about and implement sustainable practices along with fostering respect and care for the living and non-living environments.

## REFERENCES AND CONSIDERATIONS

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- National Quality Framework 2011
- Education and Care Service National Regulations (2020)
- Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act 2006
- My Time, Our Place: Learning Framework for School Age Children

## Related TWOOSH documents

- Policy B-1: Daily routines
- Policy B-2: Programming and evaluation
- Policy B-7: Interactions with children

## PROCEDURE

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- ◆ The TWOOSH philosophy and goals guide our environmental and sustainability program.
- ◆ Our Educators promote a holistic, open-ended curriculum which explores ideas and practices for environmental sustainability. It assists the children to understand the interdependence between people and the environment by:
  - connecting children to nature through art and play. This allows the children to experience the natural environment through materials such as wood, stone, sand and recycled materials. Plants including native vegetation and vegetable gardens are also included.
  - fostering children's environmental knowledge and the promotion of sustainable activities.
  - involving children in nature walks and education about plants/gardening, such as how to grow plants and flowers from seeds.
  - engaging children in learning about the food cycle by growing, harvesting, and preparing food for use in our kitchen where possible.
  - having opportunities for children to be outside and engaging in nature whenever possible.
  - working with the TWPS P&C Green Thumbs Committee to continually improve and maintain our shared garden spaces.
  - having TWOOSH pets for children to learn responsibility, respect and how to appropriately care for living things.

## TWOOSH Practices

### Reduce – general

- ◆ Reduce the amount of waste we produce.
- ◆ Monitor children's meals and serving sizes closely and change ordered food quantities as necessary.
- ◆ Collect leftover drinking water to use in the garden.
- ◆ Encourage children to use resources appropriately and reasonably. Also foster discussions around the impact unnecessary waste on our environment.
- ◆ Minimise printed notes by communicating with families through email, Xplor Home APP, website, FaceBook and in person.
- ◆ Minimise paper usage by moving to electronic checklists, forms, filing and using recycled paper for craft etc.
- ◆ Monitor children's handwashing closely to ensure taps are turned off and water not wasted.
- ◆ Buy in bulk to lessen packaging waste.
- ◆ Reduce the use of hazardous substances by using environmentally friendly alternatives.

### Reduce – electricity

- ◆ Turn off computers and any other unnecessary equipment at the power point each night.
- ◆ Use natural air through windows when weather allows and turn off air conditioners when not needed.
- ◆ Use natural light whenever possible.
- ◆ Turn off fluorescent lighting and use smaller lamps when possible.
- ◆ Reduce the amount of fluorescent lighting tubes in light fittings.

### Reuse

- ◆ Use resources for multiple purposes.
- ◆ Reuse excess/unrequired printing and documents as scrap paper or for children's drawing.
- ◆ Put food scraps in the compost bins.
- ◆ Keep cardboard packaging, jars and other reusable materials for craft and construction use.

### Recycle

- ◆ Provide recycling bins at TWOOSH and encourage children to use them.
- ◆ Recycle by separating items that can be used again.
- ◆ Encourage recycling during craft and other activities.
- ◆ Ask families to donate recycled paper/materials suitable for craft from home or workplaces.

## Revisions

### Date of next review: January 2025

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Date	Reviewer	Approved by
30.10.17		TWOOSH Management Committee
26.11.18		TWOOSH Management Committee
23.09.19		TWOOSH Management Committee
02.11.20	CB, MK	TWOOSH Management Committee
12.04.22	PG	TWOOSH Management Committee

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**04.09.23** EH TWOOSH Management Committee

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