



Bardon Community Kindy - Sustainability Strategic Plan 2019-2021

Bardon Community Kindy Inc., also known as “The Place in the Park, is a non-profit organization that has been part of the Bardon community for almost 70 years. Each week, 88 children participate in the Kindy’s early childhood educational program led by highly qualified, dedicated and experienced teaching staff. The Kindy takes a holistic approach to teaching and learning, and nurtures a strong sense of community and collaboration, involving parents and children as active decision-makers and participants.

The Kindy is strongly committed to sustainable practice with renewable solar energy, rain water tanks and a comprehensive waste recycling program. Sustainable practices and care for the environment are an important educational focus at the Kindy.

The Queensland Government has rated the Kindy as exceeding the National Quality Standards in each of the Standard’s seven quality areas.

Vision

Bardon Community Kindy is a leader in sustainable practice, influencing members of the Kindy community to make a positive impact on current and future sustainability at Kindy, at home and in the wider community.

Goals

A Culture of Sustainable Practice

Develop a strong and embedded culture of sustainable practices within the Kindy, led by Kindy staff.

Reduce Energy, Water and Waste

Put sustainable practices into action to reduce the Kindy’s energy and water consumption by 5% by 2021 compared to 2018, reduce landfill waste to one bin collection each week, and become energy neutral by 2025.

Educate and Lead

Encourage children and their families to adopt sustainable practices at Kindy, at home and across the wider community.

Goal: A Culture of Sustainable Practice

Strategies

Develop and implement a sustainability policy.

Develop and implement a procurement policy that encourages waste minimization, increased recycling and preferences socially responsible products, such as recycled rather than virgin paper.

Progress toward sustainability targets, and ideas for new initiatives discussed in regular team meetings and monthly Kindy management committee meetings.

Implement initiatives to share progress toward targets with staff, children and the Kindy community.

Measurable Outcomes

- Sustainability policy is approved and operational by June 2019.
- Procurement policy is approved and operational by July 2019.
- Effectiveness of policy is reviewed, and policy updated as necessary by July 2021.
- Sustainability targets and new initiatives are a standing agenda item in team meetings and Kindy management committee meetings.
- Sustainable practices are a standard element in the planning of all Kindy events and initiatives.
- Information about the Kindy's sustainability policy, its KPIs and targets included in 2019 Kindy Handbook.
- Posters or other visual aids showing progress toward targets are displayed at the Kindy and updated regularly.
- Information about progress toward targets is included in the Kindy's e-newsletter.

Goal: Reduce Energy, Water and Waste

Strategies

Develop Key Performance Indicators to measure energy and water consumption and set targets and timeframes to achieve goal of 20% reduction in energy and water consumption and 80% diversion of waste from landfill by December 2021.

Benchmark the Kindy's energy and water consumption and waste output.

Regularly monitor energy and water consumption.

Implement waste reduction strategies

Implement energy efficient and sustainable energy practices

Measurable outcomes

- Identify appropriate targets, timeframes and measures of energy and water consumption and waste output.
- Develop KPIs for implementation from July 2019.
- Establish energy and water consumption and waste output baseline measures prior to start of KPI implementation.
- ecoBiz energy meter used regularly to measure energy consumption and identify inefficiencies and areas of improvement.
- Quarterly zero flow audits on water and energy meters.
- Effective recording and tracking of energy and water consumption.
- Identify practices and waste categories contributing to landfill.
- Implement strategies to reduce landfill generated by the Kindy.
- Implement strict recycling program including soft plastics and battery recycling strategies.
- Quarterly audit and review effectiveness of landfill reduction strategies.
- Develop a PV solar procurement strategy for the replacement of current solar system.
- Air-conditioning units at 24c in summer and 19c in winter.
- Energy saving power boards and automated timers to turn off power points and equipment when not in use.
- Lights off when not in use.
- Computers programed to energy saving mode.

Strategies

Measurable outcomes

Invest in energy and water efficient infrastructure

- Monitors and computers turned off at the end of the day.
- Printer energy saving functions activated.
- Printer and paper use reduced through double sided printing, ink and toner saving settings, appropriate layout, re-using paper, printing only once.
- All taps, toilets and shower fittings are water efficient.
- Ageing appliances replaced with energy efficient models.
- Electric hot water system replaced with solar thermal with PV solar boosting.
- Window treatments (eg curtains, blinds, solar screen or window coatings) to seal in temperature control.
- Ceiling insulation installed if needed.

Goal: Educate and Lead

Strategies

Partner with families to encourage adoption of sustainable practices at home and in the wider community.

Encourage children and Kindy community to contribute toward reaching targets and timeframes.

Measurable Outcomes

- Opportunities for children to learn about sustainability and the environment.
- Sustainable practices children can implement at home i.e. turn off tap while brushing teeth, turn off lights, recycling.
- Collaborations with families on sustainable practices such as nude lunchboxes and sustainable travel.
- Opportunities for families to donate and recycle specific items.
- Specific events at Kindy focusing on sustainable practices and the environment.
- Initiatives for children to participate in measuring, tracking and recording resource consumption and waste output at Kindy.
- Regularly updated visual information about the Kindy's progress toward its goal is displayed at the Kindy.