



ASCOT VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

LITTER POLICY

Established September 2018 – School Council Approval Not Required

SCHOOL STATEMENT

At Ascot Vale Primary School (AVPS) we promote a safe and empowering learning environment, and also aim to maintain a safe and healthy physical environment. Our school grounds are used by us but also by others in our community. In line with being a Waste-Wise School, we aim to minimise the amount of litter we produce, dispose of it in the right way, and keep our school grounds clean by picking up any litter that we find.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AVPS Litter Policy is to guide our efforts to wipe out litter by describing the ways all parts of our school community will work together. This will benefit all of us by improving the cleanliness and comfort of our school, reducing costs associated with waste management, and reducing the impact of our school's activities on the environment.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to reduce the amount of waste produced by our school community, and to keep the school grounds clean.

IMPLEMENTATION

AVPS will avoid the creation of litter by encouraging our school community to live by the A3RsC:

- *Avoid*
- *Reduce*
- *Reuse*
- *Recycle*
- *Compost*

We will make sure our litter is disposed of in the right way and not left on the ground. This includes picking up any litter we find, and actively searching for litter we may have missed.

1. School operations

Management of litter will be built into the operation of the school, including by:

- Ensuring enough bins (rubbish, recycling and green waste) are available around the school;
- Making sure bins are emptied regularly so that they can be used easily and litter doesn't spill out;
- Encouraging families to use minimal disposable packaging in school lunches, and holding periodic "nude food" events;
- Considering whether and how the principles of avoiding, reducing, reusing, recycling and composting can be applied to any school policies as they are being reviewed by school council;
- Taking turns for each unit to pick up waste around the school and put it in the right bins.

2. Curriculum

A focus on reducing waste in general and litter specifically will be built into the curriculum across all year levels:

- Tools for planning will be provided to teachers;
- Planned units will be audited for opportunities to include a focus on waste minimisation;
- Students will be encouraged to share what they have learned with their families and the wider community.

3. Community

A culture of reducing, reusing and recycling will be fostered throughout the school community:

- Students will be encouraged to take ownership of and lead waste-wise strategies through the development of a student team called the Environment Protection Activists (EPA), reducing the production of waste and litter;
- The Waste-wise Teacher Committee will work with the student team to oversee and coordinate waste-wise activities;
- Staff will lead by example, disposing of their own litter responsibly and picking up litter when they see it;
- Reminders to reduce waste, dispose of waste appropriately and keep school grounds clean will be sent through the Newsletter, Prep Transition Handbook, assemblies and Facebook groups, and via parent representatives;
- Families are encouraged to use reusable containers and minimise the amount of plastic packaging in lunches.

REVIEW OF POLICY:

This policy will be reviewed every three years, in line with the Waste Wise policy. School Council approval is not required.

REFERENCES

This policy can be read in conjunction with the AVPS Waste Wise Policy and the AVPS Student Leadership Policy.