

Waste Hierarchy Triangle

Collaborative Responses



REDUCE

Waste Reducing Ideas

Top ideas for sending less waste to landfill / increasing resource recovery

Suggested Items to Reduce

- Straws
- Single use plastics
- Baby wipes
- Disposable coffee cups
- Plastic bags
- Packaged canteen food
- Plastic spoons
- Packaged foods in canteen – offer more handmade items
- Ziploc bags and cling wrap

Ways to make it happen:

- Educate families about reducing waste and saving money when buying bulk
- Offer families recipe ideas for home-made items using leftovers eg apple muffins, banana cake
- Implement Waste Free Wednesday & Trash Free Tuesday
- Reduce waste flyer (notifications/social media/newsletters etc)
- Nude food waste ideas (notifications/social media/newsletters etc)
- Everyone take responsibility for their leftover food to go home
- Encourage staff and teachers to use less paper
- Reduce use of photocopying colour toner and black and white toner

Students

Encourage your school to set up recycling and waste reducing systems in your school – for your future!

Teachers

Reduce amount of printing – use digital sharing wherever possible.

Canteen Staff

Replace plastic products with paper or wooden products – ie straws/spoons

School Community

Include Nude Food and Waste Free days at school as a regular, ongoing event

Home

Encourage and support your children to be active in the school waste reduction/recycling programs.

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RE-USE

Waste Reducing Ideas

Suggested items to Re-use

- Refill canteen containers e.g Plastic bottles and plastic containers
- Bin liners – can cleaners use less bin liners? Can they consolidate rubbish into one rubbish bag instead of ten?
- Egg cartons for paint trays
- Re-use classroom resources for craft projects
- Offer old resources to other groups or local charities
- Old pencils – sharpen and use them
- Coffee cups (keep cups)
- Paper, cardboard and bottle tops
- Food waste scraps to chickens and compost (organics recycling)
- Re-use Ziploc bags
- Laminated items to be used multiple times
- Reuse library bags and second hand uniforms
- Re-use scrap paper for art paper notepads etc,

Ways to make it happen:

- Double sided photocopying and 2 notes per A4 page the 'norm'
- Set up a re-use room or space in the school and ask for Re-use Helpers
- Have a Re-use Stall at assembly once a term
- List items available in school newsletter
- Make it part of school culture
- Put a sign on the school bin/s: "If it's still useful, don't waste it!"

Top ideas for sending less waste to landfill / increasing resource recovery

Students

Take responsibility for recycling and re-using your own belongings eg lunch-boxes as well as school resources.

Teachers

Encourage re-use of old resources and regularly make use of 'scrap' paper/cardboard

Canteen

Save empty tubs, egg cartons etc for classroom resources or re-use in canteen

School Community

Organise a Second Hand Saturday or Garage Sale, Toy/Book/Clothes Swap

Home

Adopt a re-use attitude at home – contributing to a sustainable future for our children

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RECYCLE

Waste Reducing Ideas

Top ideas for sending less waste to landfill / increasing resource recovery

Suggested Items to Recycle

- Collect bottles and cans eligible for \$0.10 refunds through Return and Earn eg at Reverse Vending Machines and Envirobank Depot
- Introduce three bins for rubbish, recycling and food scraps
- Recycle fruit and food scraps into organic matter...compost & worms
- Students collect clean soft plastics for 'Redcycle' = soft plastic recycling at supermarkets

Ways to make it happen:

- Sign up for co-mingled recycling collection
- Bin stations – food waste, Return & Earn, other recyclables, paper and soft plastics
- Encourage and Reward recycling
- Teach staff and children about the importance of correct recycling procedures – use the right bin
- Regular reminders at Assemblies and in school newsletters
- School Compost bins and worm farms in playground – and regular adult compost volunteers on Fridays
- School families on roster to take soft plastics to supermarket
- Student Environment Group with regular responsibilities to make sure sorting systems are working.

Students

Volunteer to become a helper with school recycling jobs

Teachers

Include correct recycling of food, packaging and paper waste in staff rooms and offices

Canteen

Show your support in recycling – get onboard with school recycling system – and have a regular yellow bin collection.

School Community

Adopt a whole school recycling system! Educate everyone on correct recycling techniques. Encourage reward system for recycling/waste minimisation.

Home

Encourage students to bring uneaten food home and eat as afternoon snacks

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DISPOSE

Waste Reducing Ideas

Top ideas for sending less waste to landfill / increasing resource recovery

What is left to dispose of?

- Nappies (Support Unit)
- Polystyrene/foam cups and packaging
- First aid room waste
- Microplastics?

Ways to make it happen:

- Rethink Canteen Specials and Meal Deals - are they creating excess waste with packaging? eg offer icecream cones and cups of drinks instead of packaged items
- Become Zero Plastic School
- General waste minimisation
- Students take uneaten food home and talk to parents about food they don't eat at school
- Eliminate soft plastics from lunch boxes – go nude food.
- Minimise overall waste in schools everyday

Students

Take uneaten foods home and talk to your parents/carers about what foods you are not eating at school.

Teachers

Regularly include waste reduction and sustainability ideas in class conversations and lessons.

Canteen

Offer more canteen prepared foods – less commercial packaging...and tastes better!

School Community

Encourage overall waste minimisation ethos throughout whole school community.

Home

Parents/Carers – Encourage students to talk to you about which foods they are not eating at school. Only pack foods that will be eaten.