

# GARDENS

## POLICY

### Rationale:

- The appeal and safety of the school environment is significantly enhanced by attractive, well maintained gardens of which we can all be proud.

### Aims:

- To provide safe and attractive school gardens for all to enjoy.
- To provide opportunities for students to develop responsibility, to demonstrate reliability, and to contribute significantly to the development of their school.

### Implementation:

- The overall management and design of the school's gardens will be coordinated by the 'Grounds' subcommittee of School Council.
- The school's gardens will feature attractive plants that are not allergenic, safe for small students, low maintenance and drought tolerant. Similarly, an effort will be made to avoid plants that attract large numbers of bees, have thorns, can cause itching or are poisonous.
- Each garden will be initially developed by the Grounds committee utilising professional expertise and/or volunteer assistance, and will then be maintained by parents/carers with assistance from classes of students and volunteers.
- All classes will be assigned responsibility for maintenance of a specific garden or section of garden.
- Each garden will be watered by rain water tanks, and will not use tap water if possible.
- The Grounds committee will organise at least one working bee per term that will include a component on garden maintenance.
- The school will consider entering the state garden awards on a regular basis.

### Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

**February 2019**