



The Apple International Community School

Mission And Vision – AICS is a multi-cultural and diverse learning organization which empowers students, staff, and the community to maximize their personal, creative, academic, and athletic potential. We celebrate the pursuit of lifelong learning and are committed to nurturing high self-esteem and respect for others.

Environment and Sustainability Policy

Introduction

Apple International Community School (AICS) is committed to environmental protection and care, and contributing to a sustainable future. Sustainable practices are embedded in AICS school operations, supporting children and families to become environmentally and socially responsible and show respect for the environment. AICS wishes to reduce its ecological footprint and to educate children on making environmentally friendly choices for life.

AICS recognizes the importance of contributing to a sustainable school for the benefit of the planet's environmental health. We aim to manage resources efficiently and integrate sustainable practices by educating and motivating the whole school community to live more sustainably.

AICS is committed to sustainable practices within its community in order to reduce its environmental impact.

AICS is committed to:

- ensuring that the service takes an active role in caring for its environment and contribute to a sustainable future.
- supporting children to become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.
- promoting the role of educators who encourage children as active participants for sustainability, influencing the quality of life now, and for future generations.

Definitions

Biodiversity – The health of ecosystems.

Conservation – The protection and management of biodiversity.

Energy efficiency – Efforts to reduce the amount of energy required to provide products and services.

Energy ratings – The measurement of the energy efficiency of a product or service.

Sustainable practices – The long-term maintenance of responsibility, which has a positive environmental, economic, and social impact.

Recycling, Waste Disposal & Food Scraps

The following measures are in place to ensure that waste is disposed of in an environmentally sustainable way:

- Children's rooms, bathrooms, and staffing areas including office, pantry and other general areas not accessible to children will have appropriately sealed rubbish bins.
- Recyclable products will be disposed of correctly – this includes all cartons, glass, aluminium and steel cans, paper and cardboard.
- Recycle bins are placed in all rooms that the AICS utilises during service operation.
- Hard waste and non-recyclable materials will be disposed of in the general waste bins.
- General waste bins are placed in all children's rooms and all staffing areas.
- Organic waste will be re-used as compost/ mulch where practicable.
- Recycled, recyclable paper should be used for photocopying, and double-sided copying and printing should be made where appropriate.
- AICS will promote a Waste Wise ethic of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' within the whole school community.
- Will provide and maintain a healthy and aesthetically pleasing learning environment through the reduction of waste and litter.
- Should endeavor to reduce the cost of waste and litter management.
- Will educate children on the importance of reducing waste by running initiatives.
- Children are encouraged to dispose of waste and recycled products daily in the appropriate manner.
- Children can engage in play and learning experiences relating to waste, re-cycling, sustainability.
- Staff can promote the re-use and reduction principles of paper in all areas.

Energy Efficiency

To control energy consumption, the following measures are encouraged so that we reduce our impact on the natural environment:

- Amenities such as lighting and heating are switched off when not in use. Promote a 'switch off and save' policy for technological equipment, lighting and heating/cooling.
- Children are encouraged to turn off equipment and lights when not in use.
- Children are to engage in play and learning experiences relating to energy.
- Children will investigate the best ways to conserve energy.
- AICS will use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- Educators will include children in the process of developing and maintaining an energy efficient program.
- The Service will purchase energy efficient equipment where possible.

Water

The following measures are maintained to promote water as a precious natural resource:

- Children and staff are involved in the planning of water conservation.
- Children are educated on the importance of turning off the taps when not in use.
- Trees are planted that are conducive to the children's learning environment, and which requiring minimal watering.
- Turning off taps is promoted using signage.
- Children engage in play and learning experiences that conserve water.
- Children are assigned to monitor water usage and report wastage.
- Resources and equipment are used as efficiently as possible.
- Children and educators are involved in the planning of water conservation initiatives.

Biodiversity

To promote the protection and conservation of biodiversity, the following measures are established:

- Children's play areas are environmentally friendly and recycled materials are used where possible.
- Natural materials that reduce the impact on the environment are preferred.
- The outdoor natural environment is maintained and developed by planting trees that are conducive to our environment.
- Children are encouraged to engage in play and learning experiences relating to biodiversity.
- Educators and children grow and harvest a range of vegetables and herbs using Hydroponics.

Transport aims.

- To encourage sustainable forms of transport and to encourage the children to conduct regular audits and be involved in planning events to promote sustainable transport.