

Stanmore Public School Parents and Citizens' Association

Sustainable Events Policy

Policy title	Stanmore Public School P&C Sustainable Events Guidelines
Effective date	<i>18 June 2019</i>
Review date	<i>June 2020</i>
Approved by	<i>Stanmore P&C Executive and Members 2019</i>

Revision History

Revision Date	Revision Description	Revision made by	Approved at meeting

The P&C would like to reduce waste, increase recycling and lesson our environmental impact when organising events, and to place an emphasis on sustainable practices as a priority above fundraising.

The intention of these guidelines are to provide an agreed standard approach with simple, achievable ways to set up events whilst keeping the environment in mind; ensuring we are following the best approach possible to reduce waste, single use plastics, and also to increase recycling.

These guidelines are to be used for all P&C organised events, including Election Day BBQ, Mother's Day (gifts/events), Father's Day (gifts/events), Movie nights, Trivia nights and Big Night Out.

The team producing the events should be prepared to talk through and answer questions about their approach to sustainability at P&C meetings or the P&C executive before the event.

AREAS TO AVOID	SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES + PRACTICES
Bottled water/soft drinks	Suggest to use bubblers, remind people to bring their water bottles. Buy recyclable cans of drink, glass or tetra packs instead of poppers

Plastic straws	Either don't offer at all, or if absolutely required buy paper straws
Plastic or polystyrene single use items - including utensils, cups, plates	Use paper napkins to serve food (eg sausage in a roll with a paper napkin), if absolutely necessary use paper based plates, containers and cups
Selling cheap plastic single use toys EG glow sticks, balloons, glitter	Suggest kids to bring torches, or sell torches that can be used again, find toys that have less environmental impact and less travel miles. Use reusable bunting as decorations. Find eco glitter.
Single use plastic bags	Supply paper bags, calico bags or no bags (encouraging people to bring their own bags). When shopping for events use boxes or reusable shopping bags
Excessive packaging, EG plastic condiment bottles	Buy bulk bottles of condiments and decanter if needed into reusable bottles, always wash and recycle bottles when finished instead of throwing into the bin
Plastic single use tablecloths	Use fabric tablecloths that can be washed and reused
Plastic food service gloves	Use compostable food service gloves
Avoid buying goods/items that are the cheapest without analysis of long term durability or sustainability EG Investing in good quality BBQs instead of cheaper options that will need to be replaced within a short time frame	Check out ratings on Choice for durability
Avoid excessive consumption, reconsider products that are made from new materials	Check both P&C storerooms before ordering anything. Borrow from IW P&C Network or parent community. Buy second hand/recycled where appropriate.
Avoid food waste	Preference for events to have meals ordered & purchased prior to events. Consult fundraisers and "lessons learnt" for guidance as to quantity of food needed. Have plan for excess leftover food. Donate to parent volunteers at the end of the day.
Avoid recyclable items going to landfill	Think carefully about reducing waste and maximising recycling at all events. Always have recycling bins available split and labeled into paper/cardboard/soft plastics/compost/recycling + general waste. Ensure post event that everything is placed in the appropriate bin.
Avoid meat only based menus	Always offer a balance of meat and vegetarian options on food menus, aiming to not only cater to vegetarians but to reduce environmental impact of meat production.

Useful Links:



<https://www.sustainableschoolsnsw.org.au/manage/young-people/enviro-clubs-manual/project-ideas>

<https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/waste-and-recycling>

Compostable Food Service Gloves

<https://www.brisbanecupsupplies.com.au/shop-product/compostable-food-prep-gloves/compostable-disposable-gloves-medium>

Recycled Furniture

<https://www.replas.com.au/>

Reverse Garbage

<https://reversegarbage.org.au/>

Eco schools

<https://www.eco-schools.org.au/>