



Curriculum K–12 Directorate

Environmental Education Unit Fact sheet

Curriculum Support and Professional Learning for K–12 Environmental Education in NSW

The Environmental Education Unit supports the implementation of the *Environmental Education Policy for Schools*, the environmental education requirements of syllabuses K-12 and the sustainability strategies of the department's Corporate Plan 2006-08.

Curriculum and policy advice

We work with the department's 25 Environmental and Zoo Education Centres to provide advice to schools in regard to:

- interpreting the Environmental Education Policy for Schools and implementing School Environment Management Plans;
- planning and assessing environmental education across the curriculum K–12;
- quality environmental education activities, materials and resources.

Support and coordination

We work with regions, state offices and other agencies:

- aligning corporate sustainability initiatives with the Sustainable Schools Strategy;
- aligning external agency programs with the Sustainable Schools Strategy;
- advising on state and national environmental education issues, priorities, policy and plans.

2007 Achievements

- Strategic approach to environmental education through 10 Regional Environmental Education Plans;
- 550 schools integrating environmental action with student learning through School Environment Management Plans;
- 9 Climate Change Learning Communities across 9 Regions;
- 250 000 students participate in Environmental and Zoo Education Centre programs annually.

Future directions

- Education for Sustainability K–12: develop a curriculum planning and programming framework across all KLAs;
- Schools Climate Change Initiative: develop quality teaching activities in Science, HSIE and Technology for the middle years; PLC on TaLE;
- Sustainable Schools Strategy: provide quality teaching activities, environmental audit tools and case studies on the Sustainable Schools Website and regional professional learning workshops from Term 4 2007;
- Coordination of future energy and water retrofits with student learning in sustainability in schools.

Contact details

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Website support

<<http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/envired/index.htm>>

<<http://www.sustainableschools.nsw.edu.au>>

Current PLC's on TaLE

- Schools Climate Change Initiative
- Environmental Education Centres

Environmental and Zoo Education Centres

<<http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/policies/envired/assets/docs/centresbyregion.doc>>