

Quick Guide: Introducing ResourceSmart Schools program to the school community

Introducing your school's involvement in the RSS Program to your community raises awareness of your sustainability work; brings people on board and celebrates your progress and successes. Ways to do this could include:

- giving a presentation during the school assembly
- writing an article in the school newsletter
- creating a sustainability page on the school intranet or website.

Use this document to assist you to introduce the RSS program. It can be adapted as appropriate. Introducing the RSS program links to Core Module Action C1.1

Note – the grey text is suggested text only. Please tailor this document as required and remove all grey and green shaded text when the document is complete.

Example text:

We would like to share that we have joined the Victorian Government's ResourceSmart Schools program.

ResourceSmart Schools is an award-winning program, led by Sustainability Victoria on behalf of the Victorian Government, that assists schools to embed sustainability in everything they do.

The ResourceSmart Schools program started in 2008 and provides practical support to schools to reduce resources and costs by integrating sustainability into the curriculum and share learnings beyond the school gate.

The program provides students the opportunity to learn about sustainability in a real-world setting – our beautiful school grounds and community. It also complements our other initiatives such as XXXX.

ResourceSmart Schools offers a dedicated facilitator who can support our school to participate in the program by offering staff professional development, expert curriculum advice to apply the program themes, sustainability resources and regular communication updates.

The RSS Program includes the Core Module, followed by Energy, Waste, Water and Biodiversity resource modules. Each of the Modules has actions to guide the school in the areas of school operations, teaching and learning and community connections. Certificates are provided for each successfully completed module.

We have access to ResourceSmart Schools Online to capture all that we do on our sustainability journey. The platform provides the framework for our actions.

Achieving 5 Star Certification is the pinnacle of ResourceSmart Schools and is awarded to schools that have fully embedded sustainability in everything they do, with ongoing, proven results. Our goal is to become such a school.

As always, we will provide our community with regular updates on our sustainability work through our school [newsletter/website/app](#). If you would like more information about the program or you are interested in assisting with this work, please contact [XXXX](#)

Reach out for assistance

RSS Facilitators can help you:

- plan or promote your program
- locate additional resources that will assist you to participate in the Program
- conduct audits with students
- organise activities for your student action team
- find networks of like-minded staff and students to support your work
- progress your RSS module completion and certification.

To connect with your local facilitator email schools@sustainability.vic.gov.au

For support with RSS Online email help@resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au

ResourceSmart Schools is a free program offered by Sustainability Victoria that supports Victorian schools to embed sustainability across the school facilities, community and curriculum, while saving resources and money for the school.

To register to become a ResourceSmart School, visit:

<https://my.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au/> or email schools@sustainability.vic.gov.au