

Dulwich Hill Public School



Dully grounds Vision and Goals 2015 – 2020 Dully grounds Actions 2017-18





Environmental education must allow children to have an opportunity to bond with the natural world, to learn to love it and feel comfortable in it, before being asked to heal its wounds.*

**Sobel, D (1996). Beyond Ecophobia: Reclaiming the Heart in Nature Education.*



Why a Vision, Goals and Action Plan?

The Dully grounds have been established over many years through the dedication and commitment of teachers, general assistants, parents and students creating an engaging and stimulating environment for students (including the edible garden, the Goanna-Wirruga trail, frog pond, adopt-a-patch areas, sports oval etc). These spaces provide structured learning opportunities (through the edible garden curriculum), formal and informal play and an important connection to nature.

Stakeholders offer various skills and knowledge and contribute a range of involvement and commitment to the grounds.



Dully grounds stakeholders

- Teachers and garden teacher coordinator
- School Principal and Executive Committee
- General Assistants
- Garden curriculum coordinator and garden teachers
- Gardening bee coordinator and participants
- Dully grounds Vision group
- P&C
- Students and Student Representative Council (SRC)
- Parents and carers
- Out of School Hours (OOSH) provider

People move on

As changes occur within the stakeholder mix over time, working towards a five year Vision with identified Goals using an Annual Action Plan aims to help to applying a holistic and consistent approach to managing the Dully grounds including:

- maintenance
- participation and inclusion
- learning integration
- priority areas
- responsibilities
- work, health and safety
- stakeholder partnerships and collaboration
- food and sustainability
- biodiversity protection and enhancement
- accessibility



What have we done?

February 2015

In February 2015, a flyer was sent home with students to get input and feedback from families on a proposed draft Vision, asking 3 questions:

1. Do you agree with the draft Dully grounds Vision for 2020?
2. Is there something else you'd like to see in the Dully grounds in 2020?
3. Would you like to be involved in the Planning Workshop in late February 2015?

Feedback was received from 25 families - all agreed with a proposed Vision and 13 providing additional suggestions. Endorsement on a proposed Vision was received from teachers who also provided feedback.

March – August 2015

A Vision group was established in mid March 2015, comprising of 16 school parents, School General Assistant and Assistant School Principal. This group has met regularly since then (up to August 2015) to refine the 2020 Vision, set 2020 Goals and put together the Action Plan for 2015-16.

How does all this work?

To help achieve the 2020 Vision (page 6) a number of achievable Goals have been set for 2020 (page 7) along with associated Actions for the year. These have been put into an Action Plan (page 9) and this plan will need to be reviewed and renewed each year to meet the 2020 Goals.

The Action Plan will apply to the 8 Focus Areas (page 8) across the Dully grounds. The annual review of the Action Plan will be a time to not only check on progress towards the 2020 Goals and Vision, but also an opportunity to come together and reflect, learn and celebrate the years achievements.





Dully grounds Vision for 2020

In 2020, the Dully grounds is a respectful and harmonious space where everybody feels welcome.

Aboriginal knowledge is celebrated and shared. The school and community works together to make the Dully grounds inspiring, dynamic, resilient and sustainable.

Local native plants are diverse and thriving and from the soil to the treetops, a range native animals call the Dully grounds 'home'. A rich abundance of different herbs, fruits and vegetables are grown, harvested and enjoyed by all.

Children play actively on a grassed area and elsewhere others are intrigued, exploring, inventing or quietly contemplating. There is a place and space for everyone.

Part of the GreenWay corridor and the Cooks River catchment, the Dully grounds are important to local people and are helping us to understand our connection to nature by providing knowledge sharing experiences.



2020 Goals

In 2020:

1. School and community understand the Vision and together they share, nurture and respect the Dully grounds.
2. Together the school and community have been actively implementing and reviewing the Action Plan to help meet the 2020 goals and Vision.
3. Accessibility has improved throughout the Dully grounds.
4. Aboriginal knowledge can be seen and experienced throughout the Dully grounds.
5. The school and community are maintaining the Dully grounds in an ecologically sustainable way that includes working with natural processes and resources.
6. The school and community are maintaining the Dully grounds in collaboration with other stakeholders including local and state government and local businesses.
7. The school and community is inspired and empowered to develop knowledge, skills and capacity for living sustainably.
8. Local native plant and animal diversity and abundance has increased and undesirable species has decreased throughout the Dully grounds.
9. A range of play options are available for children that engage and accommodate different needs throughout the Dully grounds.
10. The Dully grounds are being used as an outdoor classroom by teachers and community to help implement the school curriculum.
11. The GreenWay vision and being part of the Cooks River catchment is integrated into the school through the grounds and curriculum.



All Focus Areas map






Action Plan 2017-18



To be used in conjunction with the Dully grounds Appendices and reviewed in December each year, with actions set for two years ahead in line with the 2020 goals and vision. Please refer to the relevant focus area map/s for each action.

Focus Area/s	Action	Year	Priority	Who	Status
All focus areas, multiple focus areas					
All	Dully grounds working group (including GA and exec rep) meet once a term to share information and updates and work together on Action Plan implementation	2017	1	LM, MC, SA	ongoing
All	Dully grounds working group provides an update to P&C once a term	2017	1	LM, MC, SA	ongoing
All	Trees on Dully grounds – provide expertise and input on tree management decisions to the school exec as required including options on wholesale removal that meet safety requirements	2017	1	KB, AM	RK recommended removal of Tree 111/12? and 101 due to structural issues with adjacent bldgs Tree audit 2017 report req'd
All	Trees on Dully grounds – replace trees that require removal (at a 1:1 ratio) with appropriate species (right tree for the right place) (see appendix 11)	2017	1	KB, AM	
All	Hold coordinated <u>quarterly</u> working bees for agreed general works that can be undertaken by school and community (see appendix 14 – incomplete)	2017	1	SA, CB	ongoing
All	Store annual Update of Vision, Goals and Action Plan, Appendices and associated documents at school	2017	1	JJ	
All	Explore compostable waste opportunities and bokashi bucket trial in selected locations	2017	3	MC	
All	Cooks River stencil around stormwater drains (already done in chalk; more stenciling to be done)	2017	2	LM	

All	Seek funding for accessibility audit across school and identify priority areas for upgrade	2018	2	P&C	
All	Appoint Dully grounds coordinator for the year ahead. Role includes communicating the vision, goals and priority activities to the school community and leading implementation of priority activities.	2017	1	Vision Group	CB, LM, JJ
All	Explore creative solutions that help navigate to the office and key areas throughout the school	2017	3	AM	
3,4,5	Hold coordinated <u>monthly</u> weeding targeting focus areas as needed (after school)	2017	1	LM, SA	ongoing
3,4,5	Monitor biodiversity - planting success, native bee habitats, insect hotels and habitat tree	2017	2	LM, JJ, NM	ongoing
All	Support outdoor learning program to be run by teachers	2017	1	LM, NS, JJ, LN	ongoing
All	Launch and manage Dully Green Thumbs Club to engage students and families in caring for Dully Grounds	2017	1	AM, LM, JJ	AM prepared material, LM taken to exec, launch Term 2 Working bee
All	Submit information and photos for website	2017	1	LM	Drafting
3,4,6	Seek funding to look at ensuring water tank inputs are functional and maintained, including gutter/downpipe cleaning and maintenance. May include an audit of current issues and rectification costs (one-off capital works, routine maintenance)	2017	1	MC, AM	
 Focus Area 1. Includes the Top Oval and garden beds around the music room and along the Hercules Street fence line and a section of Kintore Street fence line.					
1b	Explore environmentally and financially sustainable opportunities that provide a soft-surface, multi-use play space on the top oval.	2017	1	CB, NM, KB	P&C Projects
1d	Explore planting opportunities with Exec for hardy scattered native shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers around perimeter garden beds	2018	2	JJ	
1d	Explore landscaping opportunities for slope stabilization, mulch retention, water management	2018	2	CB, NM, MC, AM	
 Focus Area 2. Includes a section of the Kintore Street fence line adjacent to the Hall and car park and surrounds.					

2a	Stage weed and mulch areas in the raised beds adjacent to the hall using quarterly coordinated working bee to be planted out with local native species by school and community	2017	2	SA, LM, NM	Ongoing Stage 3 planting 2017
2b,c	Use coordinated working bee, monthly weeding and P&C funded assistance to undertake weed control around native plantings to increase resilience	2017	1	LM, NM	ongoing
 Focus Area 3. Includes the edible garden, chickens, native plantings and a section of the Kintore Street fence line.					
3d	Provide volunteer opportunities to participate in the garden including Dully Green Thumbs rosters and task list (see appendix 4)	2017	1	LM, SA	ongoing
3f	Explore further curriculum integration of garden lessons and funding sources	2017	1	LM, JJ	
3	Explore return of chickens, volunteer/class care and funding for new run	2017	1	JJ	Survey teachers/parents
3	Source funding for covered outdoor signage to display information, class activities and volunteer opportunities	2017	1	LM, SA	Obtain quote
 Focus Area 4. Includes Shady Corner, play equipment, Bottom Oval, sandpit, mulch bay, planter beds along a section of the Kintore Street fence line and Blackwood Avenue fence line.					
4a	Implement recommendations from the Oval sub group including section-style approach to weed control and grass runner/turf replacement, asbestos management (appendix 16)	2017	1	AM, CB	Appendix 16
4b	Explore creative solutions that convey habitat tree information	2017	1	LM	
4b	Monitor habitat tree for fauna	2017	1	JJ	ongoing
4c	Prepare and plant area out around playground with selective hardy natives for Schools National Tree Day	2017	2	SA, AM, JJ	
4	Re-run Metal Sculptures Fundraiser with new designs by 2017 DHPS cohort	2017	2	MB, MC	
 Focus Area 5. Includes the Indigenous Garden, Outdoor Classroom, and frog pond.					
5a	Use coordinated working bee, monthly weeding and P&C funded grounds assistance to undertake environmental weed control (Madeira vine, Morning glory, Turkey Rhubarb, Tradescantia etc) along light rail fence and in and around frog pond	2017	1	CB, JJ, LM, NM	ongoing

5e	Maintain swales and associated drainage relating to WSUD project	2017	1	NM +?	ongoing
5c	Seek assistance from TransDev to undertake environmental weed control (Madeira vine, Morning glory) on Light Rail fence	2017	1	JJ	ongoing
5e	Use coordinated monthly weeding to undertake weed control in the Indigenous garden and frog pond to increase resilience	2017	1	SA, MC, LM, NM	ongoing
5a,b,c,d,g	Design and make mural to be placed on wall of classroom. Working in collaboration with Dulwich Hill HS and with DHPS kids	2017	3	MB	
5a,b,c,d,g	Redesign small COLA and surrounds in line with outdoor learning objectives, and community gathering and event	2017	3	NM, CC, MC, LM	Design/ 'consultation
5a,b,c,d,g	Explore feasibility for mud event (to build clay oven?) as Term 4 Working bee as community building and curriculum integrated project	2017	3	LM, CB	Consultation
Focus Area 6. Includes the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA), various planter beds, the Cadigal Supermarket and rain tanks.					
6a	Use coordinated monthly working bee to undertake weed control in the Cadigal supermarket as required to increase resilience	2017	1	LM	ongoing
6a	Facilitate additional native plantings in Cadigal supermarket to retain diversity	2017	1	LM	ongoing
6b	Monitor native bee habitat	2017	2	JJ, SA	ongoing
6c	Explore solution for areas where matting is exposed that will retain mulch or similar	2017	2	CB, NM, KB	
6c	Explore play potential for large raised bed area with trees. <i>Not clear on this one – for discussion with group</i>	2017	2	KB, JJ	
6d	Stabilise logs in position for safety	2017	1	KB, JJ,	Screws or wooden pegs?

 Focus Area 7. Includes solar panels, various planter beds around kindy classrooms and teachers staff room, Olive Grove and the OOSH area.					
7a	Replace trees removed/damaged with National Tree Day give-away from Council	2017	1	KB, AM	
7b	OOSH planter bed – plant out with native plants at working bee <i>LM to provide budget, SA to put in request with P&C.</i>	2017	2	LM, SA	
 Focus Area 8. Includes Handball Drive and various planter beds					
8a	Replace trees removed/damaged with National Tree Day give-away from Council 2017 tree day	2017	1	RK , KB,	
8c	Restore green waste area and prepare area (weeding and mulching) using quarterly working bee and plant out with local native trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers through garden lessons	2017	3	NM, LM, JJ	

Focus Area 1 map

Includes the Top Oval and garden beds around the music room and along the Hercules Street fence line and a section of Kintore Street fence line.



Focus Area 2 map

Includes a section of the Kintore Street fence line adjacent to the Hall and car park and surrounds.



Focus Area 3 map

Includes the edible garden, chickens, native plantings and a section of the Kintore Street fence line.



Focus Area 4 map

Includes Shady Corner, play equipment, Bottom Oval, sandpit, mulch bay, planter beds along a section of the Kintore Street fence line and Blackwood Avenue fence line.



Focus Area 5 map

Includes the Indigenous Garden, Outdoor Classroom, and frog pond.



Focus Area 6 map

Includes the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA), various planter beds, the Cadigal Supermarket and rain tanks.



Focus Area 7 map

Includes solar panels, various planter beds around kindy classrooms and teachers staff room, Olive Grove and the OOSH area.



Focus Area 8 map

Includes Handball Drive and various planter beds.



Actions Completed / Not Implemented

Completed actions to be moved to this section, so we have a record of progress against our goals. Actions found after investigation not to be achievable or desirable are also listed here. It is noted that many actions in the plan are labelled 'ongoing' and may have achieved many outcomes to date although they have not been moved to the 'completed' list.

Focus Area/s	Action	Year	Pri- ority	Who	Status
All	Complete Appendices that support the Vision, Goals and Action Plan	2015	1	LM, MC	Ongoing
All	Explore solution and funding for green waste on site including compost bay	2015	2	JC, KB, NM	Completed
All	Produce native plant list for use across the Dully grounds and yearly planting record	2015	2	LM	Completed
All	Appoint Dully grounds coordinator and new members as part of succession planning (CB appointed coordinator for 2016, SA and MC working bee planning & comms). <i>A new action has been added to make appointment of Grounds Coordinator an annual activity.</i>	2015	1	Vision Group	Completed
All	Cooks River stencil around stormwater drains. Done in chalk.	2016	2	LM	Completed
All	Water pipe audit for leaks across whole of school site	2016	1	KB	Completed
3,4,5	Contact Council to help explore storm water impacts to southern parts of the grounds	2015	1	LM, MC	Completed
3,4,5	Explore options for rain garden and learning space and associated funding options	2015	1	MC	Completed
3,4,5	Seek funding to reprint Goanna Trail signs	2015	1	LM	Completed
3,4,5	Redefine elements of the Goanna Trail as required including sandstone stepping stones and painted footprints (completed as part of raingarden project)	2015	2	CB, KB, JJ, NM	Completed
1a	Discuss with Exec if 'play' rather than 'stage' can be allocated on top oval. <i>Not implemented – considered unworkable.</i>	2015	1	JJ	Not implemented

1c	Create a long planter bed cut-out in the bitumen on southern side of the top oval that can be planted with local native trees to provide shade and selective hardy grasses and groundcovers. <i>Not implemented – Kevin Brady planted trees (watergums) instead.</i>	2016	1	KB, RK, JJ	Not implemented
2b	Explore planting opportunities with Exec for scattered native shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers around car park and entrance to school	2015	2	DB	Completed
2c	Stage weed and establish with local native species to increase biodiversity	2015	2	DB	Completed
3a	Seek funding to engage plumber to implement a solution to guttering outside kindy rooms. <i>In 2016, liaison between the Dully Grounds group and the school executive resulted in routine maintenance funds being allocated and works undertaken (through the DEC's contractor) to replace gutters in the kindy block.</i>	2016	1	MC, RK	Completed
3b	Replace netting over chicken coop with biodiversity friendly netting	2016	1	RL	Completed
3c	Provide garden lessons for all stages including aboriginal knowledge sharing. <i>Changes in 2017 – teachers will be facilitating outdoor learning and garden lessons themselves.</i>	2015, 2016	1	LM, NS	Completed
3g	Provide opportunities for garden teacher training. This was done for several years. Not continuing in 2017.	2015, 2016	-	LM	Completed
3h	Explore opportunities to conduct public workshops on site as fundraising. <i>Not done. Insufficient resources for this.</i>			LM	Not implemented
5b	Seek funding for contractor assistance on environmental weed control (Madeira vine, Morning glory, Tradescantia etc) and provide crushed sandstone capping for weed suppressant and native plant material	2015-2016	1	LM	Completed
5d	Use coordinated quarterly working bee to lay crushed sandstone and plant out area	2016	1	DB, CB, RK	Completed
5f	Explore landscaping opportunities for water management	2016	1	MC, CB	Completed
5g	Replace and replant to increase diversity in beds around small COLA using plants from school plant list	2016	2	LM, NM	Completed

7b	OOSH planter bed – Camp Australia to plant vegie/sensory herb garden. <i>This has not happened over the past two years. Since decided that this area should be planted out with native species by Dully Grounds people as part of working bee.</i>	2015-2016	2	SA	Not implemented
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Key to initials/abbreviations*

Initials	Name
CB	Chris Bird
Exec	DHPS School Executive
P&C	DHPS Parents and Citizens Association
JJ	Jillian Jackson
KB	Kevin Brady
LM	Leonie McNamara
MB	Martha Belgum
MC	Manuela Crank
NM	Natalie Morgan
NS	Nardi Simpson
RK	Rilke Kaltenbach
DB	Damon Basset
SA	Sarah Alleley
AM	Andrew McCleod
CC	Cath Coleman
LN	Liz Newell

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Photographs: Leonie McNamara.



