|  |
| --- |
| Teacher of the Year (Primary & Secondary) |
| Celebrating the teacher that best demonstrates leadership in sustainability. This category recognises teachers who are:   * leading school-wide sustainability practices to improve school operations, infrastructure, design, and management * addressing sustainability as a cross-curriculum priority in the Victorian Curriculum * mentoring student leadership in sustainability * leading engagement with the school and broader community. |
| 1. **Explain how this teacher demonstrates sustainability leadership. *Please include any remote learning sustainability-related activity.*** |
| **SAMPLE ANSWER BASED ON TOP SCORING CRITERIA** |
| Ms Jane Smith, our science teacher, is our school’s main sustainability advocate. Jane leads the Green Team ResourceSmart Schools Committee. She has created a positive culture within the committee, and as a result the students have been able to achieve some incredible things. With her assistance, the committee launched the Green Action Policy to guide zero-waste events and efficient purchases in the school.  Jane’s approach with the Green Team is to enable students to explore and suggest their own ideas to make the environment a better place. She has nurtured our school environmental leaders for three years, creating a culture where students are interested to take part each year. They feel empowered to make impactful change.  In Term 2, 2021 Jane organised a workshop session to map out sustainability opportunities within the curriculum that *could be integrated into remote learning*. She invited members of the Green Team to share their ideas for sustainability learning. As a result, home audits were included in science and mathematics learning. English activities included students writing texts on how they contribute to sustainability in their household. |
| **CRITERIA** |
| * 0 – No demonstration as to how the Teacher leads on sustainability. * 1 – The Teacher demonstrates basic sustainability leadership * 2 – Demonstrates how the Teacher leads on sustainability, highlighting the approach and the activities implemented by the Teacher. |
| * **3**–Demonstrates how the Teacher leads on sustainability and inspires the school community to participate. The response addresses the engagement approach and gives clear examples. |
| 1. **Explain how this teacher embeds sustainability in the curriculum and school activities and practices.** |
| **SAMPLE ANSWER BASED ON TOP SCORING CRITERIA** |
| Jane maximises the opportunities at our school to embed sustainability learning. She engages with teachers in other faculties so that sustainability can be integrated into Geography, Mathematics, English, Drama and Art. Since 2018, she has organised an annual workshop called Learning about Sustainability which encourage students to share ideas for their learning. This was run online this year and the ideas suggested by the students were collated and shared during planning days with teachers across the school.  Despite the challenges of remote learning in 2021, Jane led the Green Team to continue to participate in annual events like National Recycling Week and host the annual ‘Green Conference’ in Term 4. The conference was attended by all 450 students in the school and was open to the broader community. As part of the conference, the Green Team showcased a short film made by the year 9 drama class: a puppet play on consumerism and plastic. It is due to Jane’s work with the students and the teachers to support this learning that the event was well received by the everyone that attended. |
| **CRITERIA** |
| * 0 – No demonstration of leadership when embedding sustainability in the curriculum and school activities and practices. * 1 – Demonstrates basic leadership when embedding sustainability in the curriculum and/or school activities and practices. * 2 – Demonstrates strong leadership when embedding sustainability in the curriculum across all year levels and/or school activities and practices. |
| * **3 –** Demonstrates strong leadership when embedding sustainability in the curriculum across all year levels and school activities and practices. The answer addresses how the teacher improves the school’s sustainability outcomes. |
| 1. **What activities has this teacher undertaken to encourage sustainability leadership among students and the broader community?** |
| **SAMPLE ANSWER BASED ON TOP SCORING CRITERIA** |
| Jane has done exceptional work to engage and encourage the Green Team to commit to tackling sustainability issues at our school throughout the disruption of 2020-2021. She works with staff to produce achievements that can be shared by the entire school community.  As mentioned above, the Term 4 ‘Green Conference’ was open to the broader community. This event received praise from those who attended. The event was organised by the Student Green Team with the guidance of Jane. The representation of all faculties has helped to mainstream sustainability at our school. As part of their work on the conference, Jane guided the student Green Team to make connections with local not-for-profit organisations, farmers and activists to showcase their causes, to create awareness and to encourage healthy habits. The relationships the students made with these stakeholders will have a positive impact on the leadership of the Green Team and assist to improve sustainability education within our community. |
| **CRITERIA** |
| * 0 – No demonstration as to how the Teacher encouraged sustainability leadership among students or the broader community. * 1 – Demonstrates basic encouragement for sustainability leadership among students or the broader community. * 2 – Demonstrates various activities that strongly encourage and support sustainability leadership among students and the broader community. * 3 – Demonstrates various activities that strongly encourage and support sustainability leadership among students, with high quality examples of how student leadership has been enhanced. |
| * **4 –** Demonstrates various activities that strongly encourage and support sustainability leadership among students and the broader community. The answer provides examples of how sustainability awareness within the school and the broader community has been enhanced. |

**Total score: 10.**