



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY

September 2024

Document History	
Owner	Bursar
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Approved by	Governing Body
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Linked documents	
Linked external documents	

Purpose and Scope

This policy applies to St Edward's School. It sets out the School's commitment to environmental sustainability. This policy applies to all school activities and all members of the school community as well as contractors and relevant external stakeholders. In this policy "sustainability" means meeting the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, particularly with regard to the use and waste of natural resources.

The School recognises that its activities can have a significant impact on the local and global environments. It aims to not only minimise the negative environmental impacts arising from activities, but also to maximise the positive impact through effective management of its operations and through the content of the School's curriculum.

This policy forms part of delivering on the School's environmental strategy recognising that responsible and sustainable management of the environment is one of the key challenges that must be addressed to have a thriving and healthy global society in the future

Commitment

The School is committed to the following objectives.

- Protecting and enhancing the environment to prevent habitat and biodiversity loss, combat climate change and prevent the pollution of land, water and air or reduce the impact on habitat and biodiversity.
- Complying with and, where possible, exceeding relevant environmental legislation, regulatory requirements and other standards.
- Committing to considering the environmental and sustainability impact of any new school initiative.
- Identifying and addressing areas or actions of significant environmental impact and carrying out regular audits of the same.
 - Allocating responsibilities and adequate resources for the implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that this policy is available to all pupils, staff and interested parties by publishing it on the school website.
- Considering relevant sustainability criteria when entering procurement documentation to assist suppliers in meeting the School's environmental and sustainability objectives when delivering services, goods and construction works.
- Providing opportunities for staff and pupils to actively engage with the School's work on environmental sustainability.
- Providing pupils with opportunities in the curriculum to explore sustainability and sustainable development.
- Involving pupils and staff in the generation of ideas for sustainability through the separate Pupil and Staff Sustainability Committees, publishing the minutes of those meetings to all staff and pupils for their information and to maintain awareness
- Setting environmental sustainability targets against the following objectives, which will be reviewed and progress-reported on:
 - **Carbon and Energy:** improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - **Water:** Improve water efficiency through design and maintenance of the estate.

- **Waste and Resource Use:** Promote responsible consumption, reduce the amount of waste produced and increase reuse and recycling where generation of waste cannot be prevented.
- **Biodiversity:** Maintain and enhance the green spaces on the school site to support biodiversity and health and wellbeing.
- **Clean Air:** Contribute to reducing air pollution and mitigating the impact of poor air quality around the school site.
- **Construction and refurbishment:** Manage construction, refurbishment and post-completion occupancy of our buildings to reduce environmental impact and enhance the wellbeing of building users.
- **Catering, food sourcing and food waste:** Manage the School's catering operation with the aim of reducing its negative environmental impact.
- **Transport and Educational Visits:** raise awareness and encourage through school initiatives the use of environmentally friendly methods of transport including considering the environmental impact of educational visits at planning stage.
- **Training and Awareness:** Raise awareness of sustainability issues and provide opportunities to develop knowledge amongst staff and pupils, of environmental matters and actions which can improve sustainability.

Roles and Responsibilities

The implementation of this policy is overseen by the Bursar, who reports to the of the Chair of the Governing Body.

Reporting

Annual progress against the policy and related strategic actions are reported to the Governing Body by the Warden.

Review

The policy is updated annually and reviewed by the Governing Body every three years.