



Environmental Policy

Date: November 2023

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Approved by the Advisory Board: November 2023

Linked with other policies:

- Curriculum policy

Signed:

S. Day

Version Control

November 2023	New policy		

Statement of intent

All Saints School is committed to educating our students about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that students have the necessary skills and knowledge to understand environmental concerns, so that they can apply this to their lives and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle.

We encourage both students and staff to think about the environment and how their actions will impact upon their local surroundings, as well as the global environment.

Effective use of this policy will ensure students are taught about environmental sustainability, promote an eco-friendly attitude, and ensure that the school itself is as sustainable as it can be.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Climate Change Act 2008
- The Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Control of Pollution Act 1974
- DfE (2012) 'Top tips for sustainability in schools'

Roles and responsibilities

The Directors and Headteacher are responsible for:

- Reviewing the environmental and sustainability policy
- Consider environmental impacts where any new buildings or refurbishments are being planned.
- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage.
- Identifying, with the caretaker, energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this, such as installing motion sensor lights.
- Ensuring where possible that equipment purchased is made from sustainable resources, for example, biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic.

The school is responsible for:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, advisors, students, parents and carers and the local community to improve and sustain the world today for future generations.
- Sharing good practice with students, parents and carers and the community, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy.
- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities.
- Sharing the responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practising policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that teaching staff have the necessary knowledge to teach students about environmental concerns.
- Ensuring that staff and students understand the importance of energy conservation, for example, turning lights off when not in use.
- Communicating with disposal companies regarding the disposal of recyclable and non-recyclable waste, so that the school can implement a waste disposal procedure for all staff and students to follow.

- Ensuring that catering staff understand the importance of recycling and disposing of waste sustainably.
- Ensuring that the caretaker understands their responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the school grounds.

Teaching staff are responsible for:

- Promoting the need for environmental sustainability in their lessons.
- Ensuring their classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that computers and lights are turned off when not in use.

The Caretaker and School Support Manager are responsible for:

- Ensuring that outside lights are switched off when they are not needed.
- Recording energy use and reporting any waste to the advisory board
- Monitoring the cleaning staff and advising them on good energy practice.

Students are responsible for:

- Applying their learning at home and aiming to be sustainable outside of school.
- Using energy sustainably, for example, not leaving taps running.
- Be responsible for keeping our classrooms, school and grounds clean and tidy.
- Eat healthy, natural fruit and vegetable snacks, which don't come in paper or plastic packaging.
- Use the correct bins so that we can recycle our waste.

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- Promoting an eco-friendly lifestyle at home.
- Recycling at home and ensuring that their children understand how to recycle.
- Reinforcing the learning that the school implements in regard to the environment.

Waste and recycling

We will reduce the amount of waste we produce by:

- Writing and printing on both sides of paper wherever possible.
- Using emails as much as possible, to reduce paper waste.
- Using emails, the school's website and parent text messaging procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste.
- Putting used paper in a scrap paper drawer and re-using it whenever possible.
- Only printing documents when it is essential.
- Making sure that all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via re-use or recycling schemes.
- Where possible, encouraging students to share worksheets.
- Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.
- Students will be encouraged to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles. Students entitled to free school meals will have a reusable bottle provided by the school.
- Any disposable plastic bottles brought into school will be recycled.
- There will be clearly labelled bins located throughout the school for recycling and general waste.
- We will display posters explaining important environmental considerations, for example, what sort of waste can be recycled and how litter can be detrimental to the environment.

- Any paper containing personal or sensitive information will not be re-used and will be disposed of in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy.

Littering

The school understands that, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, littering is a criminal offence. It also understands that fines may be incurred where individuals deliberately litter the premises.

Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly. Specifically, individuals are responsible for:

- o Putting litter in a bin.
 - o Using the appropriate recycling bins.
 - o Using resources thoughtfully.
 - o Reusing resources where possible.
 - o Assisting the caretaker with the cleanliness of the premises.
- The caretaker takes overall responsibility for the overall cleanliness of the school premises.
 - The caretaker arranges and coordinates waste disposal from the premises and ensures that items are disposed of correctly.
 - The school appoints an eco-committee consisting of staff members and students, who are responsible for:
 - o Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school
 - o Monitoring the school's anti-littering procedures.
 - o Listening and responding to questions from the school committee.
 - The school raises awareness of anti-littering amongst students and staff through dedicated assemblies, PSHE lessons, staff training days and additional resources, such as leaflets and posters.

School grounds

- The Directors and the caretaker will monitor the consumption of energy within the school, recognising where the school is wasting energy and implementing measures to reduce energy consumption, e.g. introducing motion sensitive lights
- Energy saving lightbulbs will be used throughout the school when lighting is being replaced.
- When new buildings or refurbishments are being planned, we will always consider any environmental impacts and the Directors will consult an expert.

Healthy living

- We will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Students will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment.
- We will discourage environmental indifference and promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment.
- We will encourage staff and students to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.

Sustainable farming and fishing

- We will teach students where food comes from as part of the PSHE lessons, including giving them first-hand experience of growing their own fruit or vegetables.
- Students will be taught about the importance of sustainable fishing and farming, and any fish products used in school meals will be sustainably sourced.

Energy

We will reduce our energy usage by:

- Switching off lights when they're not in use.
- Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather
- Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example, computers, projectors and interactive white boards, when they're not in use.
- Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly.
- Conserving water by installing systems that reduce waste such as cistern dams and flow restrictors.
- Insulating hot water pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of frozen pipes in winter.
- Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority by the site manager.
- Look to upgrade the school's heating system to a modern, more efficient system, including a smart meter, to reduce emissions.
- Monitoring the environmental sustainability of suppliers and adjusting procurement arrangements accordingly.
- Making all members of the school's community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs.
- Appointing an individual, e.g. the caretaker, to ensure that these measures are carried out.

Reducing carbon emissions

- We are committed to reducing our overall carbon emissions.
- Emissions will be reduced by:
- Implementing renewable technologies that export surplus energy to the national grid.
- Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around school.
- Promoting the benefits of recycling.

Curriculum

- We aim to provide students with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability, by embedding the topics within many areas of our curriculum. Individual school curriculums will outline how the topics are embedded into the school's curriculum.