



Environmental Policy for the whole School including EYFS v 1.1

Environmental Statement

Town Close School is committed to nurture, engage and inspire all of its pupils, educating them across a wide range of academic, co-curricular and pastoral experiences. An integral part of this education is enabling pupils to learn about the importance of respecting the environment, and promoting sustainable choices.

The School recognises that it has a duty to:

- prepare its pupils with the knowledge and skills to look after our planet
- play its part in managing the world's resources wisely
- make a positive contribution by improving its local area.

This policy develops responsible habits and behaviours amongst all of its stakeholders (pupils, staff, parents and governors). It is essential for all stakeholders to have a keen awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment in which they live, work and relax. In order to do this, we need a plan to enable us to take responsibility for our actions and to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live. To this end, we encourage and reinforce environmental education in all aspects of everyday life.

The ways in which we will strive towards this goal is to reduce the resources that we use and the waste we produce. By recycling and re-using materials, and through ethical sourcing we can respect our environment.

Curriculum

We will ensure that teachers raise awareness of sustainability whenever possible in their teaching.

We will use the School's buildings and grounds, as a resource for environmental learning and discovery.

Reducing Waste

We will, wherever practical:

- Reduce the amount of waste produced
- re-use single-sided paper as scrap
- ensure all classes have scrap paper trays and recycling boxes
- photocopy and print on both sides of the page
- print only when essential
- laminate frequently used documents for durability
- recycle all possible waste
- keep grounds free of litter by ensuring that pupils and staff put rubbish into the appropriate bin.

Energy Conservation

We will:

- switch off lights and electronic equipment in classrooms before leaving
- ensure all computer monitors are switched off whenever they are left unattended
- carry out energy conservation walks identifying items that can be switched off at weekends and holiday periods
- ensure that the School heating system is upgraded and managed efficiently
- turn off any taps left running and report defective taps to the Maintenance Team
- make all members of the School community aware of the link between energy use and financial cost
- install smart metering
- appoint energy champions within the pupil and staff body.

Transport

We will:

- maintain adequate and safe facilities for pupils and staff cycling and walking to School
- implement an effective awareness programme on road safety, delivering Bikability and Kerbcraft sessions
- encourage shared and green transport option
- educate those driving minibuses in 'smarter driving' which has a significant effect on fuel efficiency
- reduce the impact of 'hidden journeys' taking place during the school day, i.e. special trips to re-fuel vehicles etc

Purchasing

We will:

- interrogate initial cost, quality, durability, running costs, management, and disposal issues as part of the final procurement decision
- consider environmental credentials of our supply chain and source locally where practical
- endeavour to purchase paper and other resources that are recycled or from sustainably managed sources
- commit to purchasing equipment with 'energy star' ratings where appropriate.

Implementation and monitoring

We encourage the active participation of all staff in the attainment of our environmental goals. The Eco Committee and a group of adults including teachers and senior management will be involved in the development, implementation and review of the School's environmental policy. They will recommend action that can be taken to meet the policy's aims.

The allocation of duties for environmental matters to implement this policy is set out below:

Head

Ensures effective implementation of this policy by making arrangements for the involvement of staff at all levels in considering environmental responsibilities.

Bursar

Provides advice and guidance on policy and the effectiveness of School's procedures, advising on compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and other requirements, records energy use and reports to the F and GP.

Assistant Bursar (Estates)

Manages the operational implementation of the policy, through the line management chain of the support function within School.

SMT

Provide leadership by developing a culture within the School which incorporates environmental objectives into all activities.

Heads of Department

Promote a responsible attitude towards environmental impact through day-to-day management in accordance with the policy. Monitor the ongoing effectiveness of all environmental initiatives.

Academic staff, pupils and employees

Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment and take responsibility for those actions.

*Last reviewed April 2024
Next review April 2025*