

Morecambe Road School

Environmental Sustainability and Greener Procurement Policy

Signed by:

Headteacher: A Dootson

Chair of Governors: S Mainwaring

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Statement of intent

At Morecambe Road School we are committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that pupils 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 pupils 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 pupils are taught about environmental sustainability, promote an eco-friendly attitude, and ensure that the school itself is as sustainable as it can be.

1. 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'
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013 (as amended)

2. Responsibility

Everyone in school has an environmental responsibility. This includes:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, governors, pupils, parents and the local community to improve and sustain the world today for future generations.
- Sharing good practice with pupils, parents 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.
- Understanding the importance of energy conservation, for example, ensuring that lights are off when not in use.
- Awareness of the disposal of recyclable and non-recyclable waste, so that a waste disposal procedure can be followed by all staff and pupils, including the School Kitchen
- Maintaining the cleanliness of the school grounds.
- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage and taking the necessary steps to rectify waste, such as installing motion sensor lights.
- Checking the environmental standards of suppliers and contractors.
- Ensuring equipment purchased is made from sustainable resources, for example, biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic.
- Promoting the need for environmental sustainability in lessons.

- Ensuring classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that computers are turned off when not in use.
- Switching off outside lights when they are not needed.

3. 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.
- Composting food waste, both from the kitchen and food brought into school by pupils.
- Ensuring selective waste collection and organic waste treatment for composting and mulching.
- 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, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.

We will use and promote refillable water bottles.

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 GDPR policy

Teachers will encourage pupils to partake in weekly litter picking around the school grounds

The Eco Council will promote Uniform recycling and use of the Clothes recycling bin at school

4. Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)

WEEE is regulated to reduce the number of devices and equipment that is incinerated or sent to landfill sites. To reduce the school's carbon footprint and minimise the impact on global warming, the necessary steps are taken to ensure WEEE is disposed of properly.

The types of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) the school will safely dispose of include, but are not limited to, the following:

Desktop computers

Servers

Laptops

Monitors

Printers and Scanners

Projectors and Interactive Whiteboards

5. Transport

Pupils and staff will be encouraged to walk or cycle to school, where possible.

We have suitable and safe storage for staff and pupils to store bicycles.

We recognise that there are risks involved when individuals choose to walk or cycle to school; therefore, we will organise road safety lessons in PSHE.

6. School grounds

The school grounds will be developed to encourage outdoor activities whilst ensuring that the fabric and ecology is not altered.

Bins are placed in the grounds to ensure litter is not created

Trees and shrubs are planted to maintain the green environment

7. Healthy living

We will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils 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 pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.

We will encourage pupils to get at least 60 minutes of moderate exercise a day, in line with NHS recommendations.

8. Sustainable farming and fishing

We will teach pupils where food comes from as part of the Food Tech and PSHE lessons, including giving them first-hand experience of growing their own fruit or vegetables.

We will organise educational visits to food suppliers and producers to aid pupils' understanding as to where food comes from.

School meals will be designed with due regard to seasonal produce and locally sourced food.

Where possible, we will approach local food suppliers for their produce to be used in school meals.

Pupils will be taught about the importance of sustainable fishing and farming.

9. Energy

We will reduce our energy usage by:

- Switching off lights when they're not in use.
- 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 eg water hippos. Also we use a water monitoring platform through Demeter
- Insulating hot water pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of frozen pipes in winter.
- Installation of sensor taps in all toilets
- Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority
- Consumption of electricity and gas checked by energy consultant Zenergi and invoices cross referenced. Zenergi provide data on energy useage for monitoring purposes
- Ensuring the school's heating system remains modern and efficient, including a smart meter, to reduce emissions.
- Operation of 72 solar panels which feed renewable energy into the national grid
- Displaying information around the school and in classrooms to ensure that pupils understand the importance of switching off lights, computers and taps when they're not in use.
- 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.
- The repacement of all internal lights to LED
- Promotion of all stakeholder engagement through the Eco Council

Our Display Energy Certificate is displayed at the school's main reception

10. 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.

Sourcing school supplies from UK suppliers as much as possible.

We will communicate with our LA and other schools to enhance our provisions and continue to develop and implement best practice within the school.

11. Greener procurement

We will devote our time to ensuring all product procurement is done in the most sustainable way. Management will be responsible for ensuring that orders are not processed with unnecessary purchases listed on them. The Budget Holders will ensure that produce bought is cost efficient, sourced from within the UK where possible and bought from a company with an energy efficient ethos.

We will avoid buying branded products where quality is not compromised.

We will obtain contracts with suppliers that stipulate their terms of purchase, paying particular regard to pricing, quality and their returns policy.

Paper

The school is committed to:

Purchasing paper that is eco-certified.

Purchasing paper that is produced through a process of low energy consumption and emissions.

Avoiding certain substances in paper production, e.g. bleach.

Ensuring that manufacturers state 'ecological responsibility' wherever possible.

Ensuring that paper is, at a minimum, Elementary Chlorine Free (ECF) or Totally Chlorine Free (TCF).

Lighting

The school is committed to:

Using lighting controls to reduce energy consumption.

Using light bulbs with low energy alternatives.

Promoting the use of lamps with low mercury content.

Recycling all waste products appropriately.

Transport

The school is committed to:

Purchasing low emission vehicles (GHG, other exhaust gases and noise).

Procuring environmentally friendly tyres and regenerated lubricant oils.

Ensuring the correct collection and management of used lubricant oils and tyres.

Working towards the purchasing of environmentally friendlier fuels.

Office equipment

The school is committed to:

Buying energy efficient models.

Buying products which have a low impact on the environment through their life cycle.

Buying recyclable products with a long lifespan and recyclable packaging.

Buying products with a restricted amount of hazardous material.

Buying products with restricted noise emissions.

Furniture

The school is committed to:

- Buying furniture that is produced with environmentally friendly material and processes.
- Using materials which are partly or wholly made from recycled/renewable materials.
- Making sure that all furniture purchased is repairable and recyclable.
- Purchasing timber from legal and sustainable managed forests.
- Ensuring that packaging material is based on renewable raw materials and can be suitably recycled.
- Avoiding hazardous substances in the production and surface treatment.

Food and catering

The school is committed to:

- Food from wholly or partly organic sources.
- Purchasing livestock products with high welfare standards.
- Purchasing seasonable products.
- Purchasing marine products which are sustainably produced.
- Making sure the cutlery, crockery, and drinkware used are recyclable.
- Purchasing locally produced products
- Making sure the kitchen appliances procured are water and energy efficient.

Cleaning products

The school is committed to:

- Using products produced in the UK.
- Using the recommended amounts of products and minimising use where possible.
- Using products which can be used at lower temperatures.
- Minimising the use of hazardous chemicals in cleaning and dishwashing products.
- Avoiding phosphorous and limiting biocides.
- Making sure that packaging made from recyclable materials is recycled.
- Purchasing sprays without propellants.
- Ensuring that no substances in products are identified as 'volatile organic compounds'.

Gardening products

The school is committed to:

- Buying peat-free products.
- Buying products which come in packages which are compostable, recyclable or biodegradable.
- Buying organically produced plants.
- Using alternative methods of pest control to pesticides.
- Using low-noise, low-emission and low-consumption machinery.

Textiles

The school is committed to:

Buying fair trade and or organic textiles.

Ensuring that clothes or materials purchased contain natural fibres or organic cotton.

Buying textiles with lower residues of substances harmful to human health.

Buying textiles with a reduced use of environmentally harmful substances in production.

Buying textiles/materials that can be reused or which have been previously used.

Reusing purchased items, e.g. uniforms, ties, and school bags.

12. Curriculum

We aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability, by embedding the topics within many areas of our curriculum.

Science:

Pupils will be taught about how animal extinction can impact ecosystems.

Pupils will be taught about how deforestation and loss of habitat can impact species.

Pupils will learn about the temperature changes and the impact on organisms

The importance of bio-diversity will be discussed during lessons

Geography:

Pupils will engage in discussions about windmills and other sustainable energy sources, outlining the advantages and disadvantages.

Pupils will be given case studies to analyse, such as looking into the effectiveness of sea defences.

Pupils will be provided with opportunities to access green areas in the community

English literature:

Pupils will be given nature poetry to read, assessing how the environment is depicted and the implications of these depictions.

Pupils will be given reading material relating to nature and the environment

Art

Learning staff will encourage the pupils to observe seasons and the environment.

Use of art to express the impact of climate change on the environment

Using recycled, foraged objects for the production of art.

Horticulture

Pupils will learn about food production and growing your own

Pupils will be taught about eco friendly pesticides and ground maintenance

Outdoor Education

Pupils will engage with the outdoors throughout their time at Morecambe Road School.

Access to outdoor opportunities will be provided to all pupils

The importance of healthy living and protecting our outdoors will be taught during trips and expeditions