



Environmental and Localism Policy

1.0 Aims and expectations

- 1.1 Consortium Trust is committed to educating our pupils about the importance of respecting the environment, and to promoting sustainable development.
- 1.2 The Trust recognises that it has a duty to prepare our children and young people with the knowledge and skills to look after our planet, to manage the world's resources wisely and to make a positive contribution by improving its school communities and wider local area.
- 1.3 We therefore aim to develop good habits, behavioural changes and a sense of duty amongst staff and pupils to take responsibility for their actions.
- 1.4 We acknowledge that the way the Trust and its settings operate and are managed should provide an excellent example of environmental awareness.
- 1.5 Decision making and principles at Trust and local level, relating to planning and procurement will take into account, as far as possible, our responsibilities to the environment, and aim to reduce any adverse impact.
- 1.6 We will use key documents as guidance to good practice, such as the 'Hierarchy of Waste':
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69403/pb13530-waste-hierarchy-guidance.pdf
- 1.7 By equipping our pupils and school communities with the knowledge, skills and the desire to effect positive change, we hope that they will become the respectful active citizens and creative problem – solvers of the future.

2.0 Curriculum

We will:

- 2.1 Ensure that environmental education and sustainability is covered consistently throughout the school in our curriculum.
- 2.2 Educate about green technologies, innovations and other alternatives to current practice in our schools and communities. See appendix 1 for possible ideas to support and promote positive change.
- 2.3 Protect, respect and use the school grounds, and the wider environment, as a source of teaching and learning opportunities for pupils.
- 2.4 Use the Pupil Parliament and School Councils as forums to further engage 'pupil voice'.

3.0 Transport

We will:

- 3.1 Raise awareness about the impact of transport on the environment and on people's health.
- 3.2 Promoting sustainable modes of travel, including, where possible, improved provision for cycles.



- 3.3 Implement an effective awareness programme on road safety for pupils.
- 3.4 Maintain up to date School Travel Plans.
- 3.5 Invest in Trust initiatives such as 'Salary Sacrifice scheme' in relation to electric vehicles for staff.
- 3.6 Online to be the method of choice, where possible, for meetings to reduce the need for staff travel.

4.0 Purchasing and procurement

We will:

- 4.1 Work with suppliers and contractors to seek ways to reduce the adverse impact of our operations on the environment.
- 4.2 Source from local suppliers and contractors where reasonably practicable and economic to do so.
- 4.3 Endeavour to purchase paper and other stationery that is recycled or has PEFC or similar certification that it is from sustainably managed forests.

5.0 The Outdoor Environment

We will:

- 5.1 Endeavour to use and maintain the grounds to promote biodiversity and to encourage wildlife onto the school site.
- 5.2 Incorporate environmental sustainability into the planning of capital projects, where reasonably practicable and economic to do so.

6.0 Implementation and monitoring

- 6.1 A Pupil Green Team (or similar group promoting pupil voice), which may include the support of adults, teachers, LCs and senior management, will be involved in the development, implementation and review of the environmental policy. They should recommend actions that could be taken to meet the policy's aims, using ideas and suggestions contained in appendix 1, if appropriate.
- 6.2 The above team will engage in school sustainability and local, national and international environmental initiatives.
- 6.3 Communication and celebrations of achievements and initiatives, including the use of social media, will promote the work done.
- 6.4 The Finance & Resources (or equivalent) Committee will seek to identify instances of energy wastage and take steps to rectify them:-
- 6.5 The Board of Trustees or its committees will receive a report containing environmental considerations.
- 6.6 Staff will be kept informed at appropriate times of developments in environmental policy.

The Estates Team will take steps to promote energy efficiency at our premises and to seek to reduce, where reasonably practicable, the consumption of resources such as water and electricity.



Appendix A

Litter and Waste

We will:

- re-use single sided paper.
- photocopy on both sides.
- print two pages to a sheet, where possible.
- check carefully that we are only printing essential pages.
- agendas and documents for meetings will be circulated electronically, and only printed by request
- where possible, limit the use of worksheets or put the work on the interactive whiteboards.
- where possible, laminate documents used frequently, especially outdoors.
- recycle waste such as paper, metal cans, foil, and plastic bottles, wherever this is possible through appropriate routes
- reduce the amount of waste produced.
- ensure all classes have scrap paper trays.
- use scrap paper instead of a clean sheet of paper, wherever possible.
- establish Green Teams or similar to keep grounds free of litter by ensuring pupils and staff put rubbish into the appropriate bin.

Plastics

We will:

- encourage the use of reusable water bottles.
- say no to straws and cotton buds etc. that incorporate plastic.
- avoid excessive packaging, by planned ordering or stock and making positive choices where available
- use refillable detergents etc wherever reasonably practicable.
- say no to disposable plastic cutlery.
- consider sourcing milk in glass bottles.
- have a complete ban on anything containing microbeads.
- use paper/jute/multi use carrier bags
- aim to reduce the amount of plastic at school year on year

Water

We will:

- collect rainwater for the plants on site.
- make pupils aware of the link between water use and financial cost.
- help pupils and the wider community understand that conserving water is vital to our future.

Energy Use

We will:

- switch off lights and whiteboards in classrooms before leaving the classroom.
- ensure all computer monitors are switched off whenever they are left unattended.
- ensure that heating systems are programmed, managed and maintained for efficiency.
- consider systemsthat shut down all computers automatically at the end of the day.
- turn off any laminating machine etc as soon as the use of the appliance is finished.



- turn off any tap left running and report any defective taps to the Estates Team.
- make use of renewable energy resources such as solar panels where practicable and economic to do so.
- routinely review energy suppliers and seek renewable energy source providers where practicable and economic to do
- encourage children and young people to participate in all the energy saving activities and will allow energy monitors to carry out their duties.
- make all members of the school community aware of the link between energy use and financial cost.



Document Control

Changes History

Version	Date	Amended By	Details of Change
2	23.03.2022	Sam Davidson	Reviewed in line with policy review schedule; some operational items moved to appendices.
3	26.03.2025	HoS: Facilities and Compliance	Periodic review; minor amendments

Approval

This policy will be reviewed every 4 years by Head of Service for Facilities or as required by changes in legislation.

At every review, this policy will be approved by the Executive Committee.

The policy was last approved by the Executive Committee on 02/06/2026.

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