



# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## Context

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Sustainable development is essential to ensure quality of life without damaging the planet for the future. This requires a balance between economic prosperity, social equity and care for the environment.

The school is committed to the principle of equal opportunity for all students and all staff. The school aims to promote equal opportunity and to challenge stereotypes, combat prejudice and actively discourage any discrimination against individuals or groups on the basis of social class, race, ethnic group, nationality, religion, language, gender, marital status, family or home circumstances, sexual orientation, disability, political beliefs, trade union membership or non-membership, or age.

Status	Non Statutory
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## Purpose

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### Objectives

- To encourage our students to care for themselves (their health and well-being), for each other and for the environment;
- To challenge our students to use their individual talents so that they can contribute to the economic prosperity of their local community, the country, and the global environment;
- To promote and practice the principles of social equity both in school and through our links with local, national, and global communities;
- To empower our students to lead sustainable lives through educating them in sustainable behaviours;
- To share responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practising policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment.

### Methods

The school will endeavour to address issues of global sustainability across all areas of school life.

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## **Inclusion and Participation**

As part of our commitment to the 'Every Child Matters' Agenda, our students are encouraged to participate in decision-making through a curriculum delivery emphasising skills development and through such bodies as the Student Voice, Environment Committee, and Interact. The school encourages them to feel confident about finding solutions and to enjoy positive contributions to society. Issues such as discrimination, equality of opportunity, citizenship, cultural and spiritual awareness, and care for the environment are consistent themes for all students to engage in.

## **Food and Drink**

The school acknowledges that better catering helps to improve student and staff health, concentration, and learning outcomes. To provide this the School Leadership Team in 2007 decided to be an "in-house" catering service, known as Refresh and took responsibility for the management and day to day running of the service. The school aims to provide high quality, healthy menus for all students and staff. The school accepts and ensures that our menus must comply with the Government Nutrition guidelines.

## **Energy and Water**

The school continually monitors energy use and develop ways of reducing consumption of energy & water. Maintenance projects have ensured this, following a carbon survey trust visit and the recent DEC work has seen the school reduce from "G" rating to "D" rating.

## **Travel and Traffic**

The School's Travel Plan promotes walking and cycling to school. Greener travel contributes towards safety, fitness, and alertness of our students and also reduces emission levels and congestion.

## **Purchasing and Waste**

The school reuses and recycles wherever possible and has a policy of only printing when necessary, most lone printers have been removed from rooms and printing has to be direct to photocopiers. Equipment and lights are switched off when not in use and wherever possible the school will reuse or dispose of old equipment in an ecologically sound way.

All the new computers purchased in the last year use less energy than the computers they replaced and, as the school keep repairs in-house wherever possible, it is environmentally sound to keep our older kit working rather than replace it en-masse.

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## **Buildings and Grounds**

The school is considerably old, the original building dating back to the 1950's. Any new buildings have been designed in consultation with our Local Authority architects. As a school we are committed to the Local Authority Carbon Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) and Salix funded projects have started with windows being sealed to ensure no draughts escape and a whole-school replacement lighting programme to ensure energy efficiency in all rooms and corridors. Automated meter reading machines are being fitted to allow for accurate meter readings, which can then be used to ensure energy efficiency is achieved and to highlight the school's weak spots. The school maintenance team ensure materials are recycled to use for future projects, likewise packaging is used for art curriculum work. The school ensure that regular maintenance is carried out of all our equipment and services which enables us to provide a safe working environment for our students and staff. A recent risk survey inspector noted that for the size of the school and number of people on site, how secure the school grounds and buildings are during opening hours. The school aims to utilise the skills of our site manager and team to ensure the efficiency is achieved by programming works in-house. For the last 3 years the school has worked in partnership with our local Community Service Team, providing an accessible environment for offenders to carry out their community hours, which has been an efficient way of keeping our school site looking well cared for and maintained.

## **Local Well-Being**

Through engaging with parents, local businesses, schools and community groups the school regularly provide activities such as Environment Days, raising awareness of sustainability issues. The school hosts and participates on our local Neighbourhood Watch committee and organise regular Parent Voice meetings.

## **Global Dimension**

As a school, we participate in many activities linking us to the wider world such as the Uganda Interact Project, and are proud to have gained the DCSF International School Award (an accreditation scheme for curriculum-based international work in schools) that recognises teachers and their schools working to instill a global dimension into the learning experience of all children and young people.

The school will continue to extend this ethos of sustainability throughout the school in our determination to move towards a healthier, safer, more inclusive, and equitable society and to encourage our students to become ambassadors for sustainability in the wider community.

Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Governors</li><li>• Staff</li><li>• Students</li><li>• Parents</li></ul>
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Relationship to other policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Vision</li> <li>• Equal Opportunities</li> <li>• Inclusion</li> <li>• School Food Policy</li> <li>• Citizenship</li> <li>• International School Policy</li> <li>• Finance Policy</li> <li>• Contract of Standing order</li> </ul>
Relationship to standard operating procedures	

<b>Role</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Governors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure structures are in place to support the effective implementation of this policy</li> <li>• Regularly review this policy</li> <li>• Uphold the principles of this policy</li> </ul>
Headteacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure wide consultation for the inception of this policy</li> <li>• Ensure structures are in place to support the effective implementation of this policy</li> <li>• Uphold the principles of this policy</li> </ul>
Staff, students, parents and our Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uphold the principles of this policy</li> </ul>

### **Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluation**

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The policy for sustainability forms part of the School Improvement Plan and should be reviewed annually by the School Leadership Team and the Governing Body. Monitoring progress towards our objectives is the responsibility of all curriculum teams and should be an integral part of the school.

Date established by Governing body:	April 2008
Date for full implementation:	April 2010
Date of Governor Approval:	April 2010
Date of review:	April 2012

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## ANNEXES

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