Non-Statutory Policy	
Approved by	Head
Website	Y
Staff Email	Y

Environmental Sustainability Policy

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Statement of intent

At Battling Brook Primary 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 are prepared for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.

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 all relevant legislation and statutory 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
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- DfE 'Sustainability and climate change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems'
- DfE and GEMS 'Tips to reduce energy and water use in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Data Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Health and Safety Policy
- Records Management Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The school is responsible for:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, trustees, pupils, parents, and the local community to improve and sustain the world today for future generations.
- Sharing good practice with pupils and parents, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy.

- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities. Preparing pupils for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Reviewing this policy alongside the Trust board.
- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that teaching staff have the necessary knowledge to teach pupils about environmental concerns.
- Ensuring that staff and pupils understand the importance of energy conservation, for example, ensuring that they turn lights off when not in use.
- Ensuring that the site manager understands their responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the school grounds.

The Trust Board is responsible for:

- Reviewing this policy alongside the Head Teacher.
- Challenge the Head Teacher and School Business Manager in regards to the sustainability curriculum and purchasing.

The School Business Manager:

- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage.
- Identifying, with the site manager, energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this, such as installing motion sensor lights.
- Checking the environmental standards of suppliers and contractors.
- Ensuring the heating systems are monitored daily by the site manager to ensure the school remains at a comfortable temperature.
- 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 pupils to follow.
- Ensuring that catering staff understand the importance of recycling and disposing of waste sustainably.

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 lights and electrical equipment, including computers, are turned off when not in use.
- Removing obstructions from windows and radiators to make best use of daylight and heating systems in classrooms.

The site manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring that outside lights are switched off when they are not needed.
- Recording energy use and reporting any waste to the school business manager.
- Monitoring the cleaning staff and advising them on good energy practice.
- Arranging and coordinating waste disposal from the premises and ensuring that all waste is disposed of correctly.
- Maintaining the overall cleanliness of the school premises.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Applying their learning at home and aiming to be sustainable outside of school.
- Walking or cycling to school, when possible.
- Using energy sustainably, for example, not leaving taps running.

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, using the school's website and parent text messaging procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste.

- Where it does not contain confidential, personal or sensitive information, putting used paper in a scrap paper drawer and re-using it whenever possible.
- Only printing documents when it is essential.
- Making sure that where possible all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via re-use or recycling schemes.
- Where possible, encouraging pupils to share worksheets.
- Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.

The school will ensure that there are water fountains available for pupils to drink from and refill their water bottles. Pupils will be encouraged to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles.

There will be clearly labelled bins located throughout the school for recycling, food waste and general waste. The school 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.

4. Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)

WEEE is regulated to reduce the number of devices and equipment that are 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
- Projectors
- Interactive whiteboards

The school business manager, in collaboration with the ICT technician, will find a suitable local partner, e.g. a producer of EEE that manufactures and sells EEE under their own brand, to dispose of WEEE safely. The school business manager will contact the local authority (LA) for more information and guidance, where necessary.

Before choosing a partner to dispose of WEEE, the ICT technician and school business manager review the potential partner's risk assessments and procedures to determine whether the school's WEEE and any data stored will be handled and disposed of correctly.

Once a partner is selected and WEEE is ready to be removed, the school will work with the partner to ensure all EEE is removed safely and securely from the school.

WEEE which hold personal data, or data the school needs to fulfil legal obligations, e.g. relating to safeguarding, are reviewed by the DPO to ensure the data is no longer needed or has been backed-up. Data is securely deleted or backed-up in accordance with the Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy.

5. Littering

Littering is when a person throws down, drops or otherwise deposits any litter and leaves it in any place open to the air.

Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly. Specifically, individuals are responsible for:
Putting litter in the appropriate bin, e.g. recycling bins.

- Using resources thoughtfully.
- Reusing resources where possible.
- Assisting the site manager and eco committee with the cleanliness of the premises.

The school has an eco committee consisting of staff members and pupils, who are responsible for:

- Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school.
- Organising and recruiting volunteers for litter picking groups.

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

To mitigate risks of littering, the school will implement the following procedures:

- Waste disposal – bins will be provided throughout the school, with additional bins provided in eating areas, to ensure sufficient availability for waste disposal.

The school will raise awareness of anti-littering amongst pupils and staff through dedicated assemblies, PSHE lessons, staff training days and posters.

Any individual found littering will be disciplined in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy. Any staff found to be littering will be disciplined in accordance with the school's Staff Code of Conduct. Cases of littering by parents or visitors will be handled in accordance with the relevant code of conduct, and the individual may be barred from the premises. Any individual known to have littered the premises will be required to dispose of the litter correctly.

6. Transport

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

The school will encourage teachers and other members of staff to car share whenever possible, for example, when travelling to external training days.

The school will have suitable and safe storage for staff and pupils to store bicycles.

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

7. School grounds

The school business manager and the site manager 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.

Where possible energy saving lightbulbs will be used.

The school business manager and premise officer will monitor heating within the school, assessing whether it is at an appropriate temperature and frequency and adjusting it accordingly.

When new buildings or refurbishments are being planned, the school will always consider any environmental impacts and the Trust Board will consult an expert.

8. Healthy living

The school will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment. The school will discourage environmental indifference and

promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment.

The school will encourage staff and pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.

9. Sustainable farming and fishing

The school will teach pupils where food comes from as part of the PSHE lessons.

In conjunction with the third party catering provider, the school will use locally sourced produce and sustainable sourced fish in the meals. Where possible school meals will be designed with due regard to seasonal produce and locally sourced food.

10. Energy

The school will reduce our energy usage by:

- Switching off lights when they're not in use.
- Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather and installing draught excluders so that warm air is retained.
- 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.
- Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority by the site manager.
- 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.
- Take into account the environmental sustainability of suppliers and when energy contracts are renewed.

- Making all members of the school's community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs.

The school will display our Display Energy Certificate in plain sight in the school foyer.

11. Reducing carbon emissions

The school is committed to reducing our overall carbon emissions. Emissions will be reduced by:

- Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around school.
- Promoting the benefits of recycling.
- Sourcing school supplies from UK suppliers as much as possible.

The school will publish a climate action plan on the school website so that parents and other stakeholders can be informed of our current ethos towards reducing carbon emissions.

The school will communicate with third party organisations and other schools to enhance our provisions and continue to develop and implement best practice within the school.

12. Sustainable procurement of goods

The school will devote our time to ensuring all product procurement is done in the most sustainable way.

The School Business Manager and staff placing the orders will ensure where cost effective products purchase will be sourced from within the UK and bought from a company with an energy efficient ethos.

Paper

Where financially possible the school is committed to:

- 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.

Lighting

The school is committed to:

- Using lighting controls to reduce energy consumption.
- Replacing light bulbs with low energy alternatives.
- At the installation stage, ensuring the system works energy efficiently.
- Recycling all waste products appropriately.

Office equipment

Where financially possible 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.

Furniture

Where financially possible 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.

Food and catering

The school is committed to working with the third party catering contractor to ensure where possible the:

- Purchasing organic food or food from 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, tablecloths, and glassware 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 where possible:

- 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.

Gardening products

The school is committed to:

- Buying peat-free products.
- Composting suitable items.

13. Curriculum

The school will aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability, by embedding the topics within many areas of our curriculum. For example:

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.

Geography

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

English literature

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

14. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher and the Trust Board.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff.

All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with this policy.

The scheduled review date for this policy is Autumn 2027.