



City College Stratford

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

version Jan 2023

Introduction

Our aim is to become a role model and advocate for sustainable development by embedding our commitment into everyday practice. Sustainability is therefore a key component in the College's medium term strategy and in order to achieve our vision we will:

1. Ensure that our students are educated for global citizenship by integrating sustainable development into our curriculum. We aim to maximise the common benefits of public health and environmental policies by encouraging staff and student involvement in the related working groups.
2. Implement and maintain an Environmental Management System (EMS) to manage our most significant environmental aspects.
3. Meet or exceed environmental legislation and other requirements as applicable to our environmental aspects.
4. Develop and implement a central communication strategy. The strategy will include the self assessment of progress made towards implementing this policy and our numerous environment and sustainable development improvement targets.
5. Work with our local communities and other stakeholders in improving the local environment and ensure that College activities do not have a detrimental environmental effect on that community.
6. Use natural resources prudently and prevent pollution by identifying improvement targets, whilst adhering to the following key principles:
 - Provide training and information to all staff and students to facilitate prudent use of natural resources;
 - Champion the reduction of waste following the reduce, reuse, recycle hierarchy, to include the provision of suitable segregation.
 - Address the root cause, rather than the symptoms, of resource wastage wherever possible;
 - Implement a Carbon Management Plan to reduce emissions.
 - Work towards increasing the environmental performance of all College buildings, ensuring that all new buildings meet the BREEAM criteria for sustainability as a minimum.
 - Ensure safe purchase, storage, use and disposal of hazardous materials and waste;
 - Continue to develop and support our Travel Plan, working with external parties to improve the viability of car alternatives and reduce solo commuting journeys by 2021;
 - Review our procurement activities in line with our sustainable development strategy and implement a sustainable development procurement policy;
 - Conduct ongoing benchmarking and share best practice with other colleges and universities via EAUC Membership.
 - Ensure staff and learners have the opportunity to shape/influence the environmental programme by seeking their views and having Environmental Issues as a standing item on the College's Health and Safety Committee meeting

The College Management will undertake to ensure that we have an environmentally sound college.

The College's Sustainable Development Implementation Plan is the mechanism for monitoring progress with the College's objectives and targets.

Implementation Plan 2020-21

Purchasing

- Examine current purchasing and introduce environmental criteria to guide the procurement of goods, equipment and services, ensuring that these requirements are reflected in all standard contract conditions.
- Research and, where possible, engage environmentally-friendly alternatives to existing supplies.
- Encourage the purchase and consumption of organic catering supplies

Recycling

- Encourage recycling by providing a means of collecting waste products which can be recycled e.g. drinks cans, plastic bottles, cardboard, paper, shrink-wrap plastic, aluminium foil, books.

Energy and Consumables

- Conserve energy (heat and light) in the college.
- Monitor consumption in key areas periodically, including use of electricity, gas, paper and other consumables.
- Improve the appearance of the College and provide improved means of litter and other non-recyclable waste disposal.
- Identify and, where possible establish re-use of consumables such as ink jet cartridges and toners

Waste Management

- Employ materials and equipment, and develop practices and procedures which minimise harm to the environment. Dispose appropriately of redundant computers, VDU's and other electronic equipment, glass lamps, refrigerators, batteries, secure/confidential disposal.

Catering & Cleaning

- Evaluate the facilities and practices within catering and cleaning to ensure they contribute to the college policy of environmental responsibility and healthy/functional foods.
- Explore the prospects of providing organic and functional food in the college refectories.
- Encourage the use of biodegradable cleaning materials.

Transport

- Encourage alternative, environmentally-responsible means of transport, including walking, providing more facilities for the safe parking of cycles, free electric cycle recharge points, shower/changing facilities, and reviewing public transport access and service frequency.

Review

This policy is reviewed annually and may be revised in response to feedback from students, tutors and external organisations.