



Environmental Statement

Policy reviewed by: Amy Clarke

Policy last reviewed: May 2016

Next review due: May 2019

General aims and philosophy of the policy:

Duncombe Primary is committed to educating its pupils about the importance of respecting the environment, and to promoting sustainable development. The school recognises that it has a duty to prepare its children 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 local area. We therefore aim to develop good habits and behaviour patterns amongst staff and pupils.

Curriculum

We will:

- ensure that sustainability is covered consistently throughout the school through our topic-based curriculum.
- use the school grounds, including the garden area, as a source of teaching and learning opportunities for pupils.

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.
- where possible, ask pupils to share worksheets or put the work on the interactive whiteboards.
- where possible, laminate documents used frequently.
- recycle waste such as paper, metal cans, foil, and plastic bottles.
- 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.
- help the Green Team to keep grounds free of litter by ensuring pupils and staff put rubbish into the appropriate bin.

Water

We will:

- ensure that all waste fruit is put into compost boxes for the Green Team to collect twice per week. continue to 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 whiteboards in classrooms before leaving the classroom.
- ensure all computer monitors are switched off whenever they are left unattended.
- ensure that radiators are managed efficiently.
- continue to use an automated system where all computers shut down automatically at the end of the day.
- turn off the laminating machine as soon as the use of the appliance is finished.
- report any defective taps to the site supervisor.
- encourage children to participate in energy saving activities and allow the Green Team to carry out their duties.
- make all members of the school community aware of the link between energy use and financial cost.

Transport

Although we have identified that the vast majority of our parents and children walk to school, we will continue to:

- raise awareness about the impact of transport on the environment and people's health.
- maintain adequate and safe facilities for pupils and staff cycling and walking to school.
- implement an effective awareness programme on road safety for pupils.

Purchasing Policy

We will:

- check environmental standards of suppliers and contractors.
- endeavour to purchase paper and other stationery that is recycled or from sustainable managed forests.
- ensure that tea and coffee in all staff areas is fair-trade.

The Outdoor Environment

We will:

- ensure that the grounds provide for recreational use by pupils as well as provision to undertake exercise.
- continue to use and maintain the grounds to grow fruit and vegetables for use in the school kitchen where possible.
- be aware that the school grounds provide visitors with the first impression of the school and will influence the attitude and behaviour of the pupils.

Healthy Living

We will:

- be aware that good mental and physical health at an early age not only helps avoid future health problems such as obesity and heart disease but can also improve pupils' ability to learn.
- maintain a healthy school by looking holistically at issues of exercise, diet, the aesthetic quality of the school and its grounds.

Implementation and Monitoring

The Green Team and a group of adults including teachers, governors and senior management will be involved in the regular review of the school's environmental policy. They should recommend action that could be taken to meet the policy's aims and where possible help to implement the action plan.

The Premises Committee

The Premises Committee will recognise the signs of energy wastage and take steps to rectify them. This might involve a full report going to the Governing Body. Staff will be kept informed at appropriate times.

The Site Supervisor will:

- record energy use and report to the Premises Committee any unusual increase.
- check that outside lights are not left on during the daytime unless required for safety/security.
- note lights and fuses that fail prematurely so that faults can be diagnosed.
- monitor the heating and hot water systems so that they run at maximum efficiency (18 degrees is the recommended temperature for classrooms).
- reduce water costs wherever possible.
- monitor the cleaning staff and advise them on good energy practice.