

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



St John's School  
LEATHERHEAD

Date of issue: May 2022, updated January 2023  
Date of next review: January 2025  
Responsible person: Estates Director  
Policy number: I56

## 1. Purpose

St John's School recognises that its activities have the potential for positive and negative impact upon the environment at local, national, and global levels. The School acknowledges its responsibility for environmental protection and aims to contribute to the national commitment to sustainable development and to UK Government carbon reduction targets.

The positive environmental sustainability aspect of teaching and learning will be promoted. The School will seek to achieve continual improvement in how it understands and responds to its environmental impact with specific focus on the school infrastructure.

## 2. Policy

The School commits to:

- Communicate its environmental policy and strategy to staff, pupils and other stakeholders and to raise awareness amongst these groups of their own environmental responsibilities and requirement to commit to environmental improvements;
- Provide opportunities for staff and pupils to actively engage with the school's work on environmental sustainability, for example through the staff Environmental and Sustainability Working Group, the Pupil Parliament, Sustainability Prefect, Staff Representatives Group and on INSET days;
- Comply fully with, and where possible, exceed standards set in relevant UK, EU and international regulatory requirements and agreements;
- Reduce its carbon footprint through prudent use of fossil fuels (through energy conservation, management and efficiency within buildings) and to switch to low-carbon fuel alternatives where possible;
- Manage and reduce water consumption;
- Provide information to staff, pupils and visitors about the environmental impact of journeys to and from school and actively promote those of least or lower impact;
- Reduce waste created and where possible to reuse and recycle before responsible disposal of surplus materials;
- Protect natural habitats and encourage local wildlife and biological diversity of the School's managed land;
- Integrate principles of environmental sustainability within all School policies and practices, specifically to those relating to procurement of goods and services;
- Creatively repurpose and upgrade the existing estate in such a way as to avoid building additional footprint wherever practically possible;
- Refurbish and develop the School estate in a manner that avoids negative environmental impacts and enhances the local environment;

### **3. Monitoring and Review**

The School's Environmental and Sustainability Working Group, chaired by the Estates Director, will monitor and review implementation of all areas of this policy and report biennially to the Governing Council's Estates sub-committee with particular focus on the following key areas: -

- Energy and water - monitor use, and take steps to control and reduce
- Waste – control, recycling and means of disposal
- Construction and refurbishment – from inception to minimize environmental impact
- Catering, food source and waste – sources and control of waste
- Transport – raise awareness of environmental impact amongst the entire school community
- Grounds – to minimise green waste and recycle on site where practical.

Approved by the Governing Council's Risk Management and Compliance Committee on 24 May 2022