



KEW COLLEGE PREP

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

This procedure applies to the whole school including the EYFS

Definitions or abbreviations used in this policy

ESWG: Environment and Sustainability Working Group

PTA: The school's parent association

STARS: Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe. STARS is Transport for London's accreditation scheme for London schools and nurseries

The school: Kew College Prep

1. INTRODUCTION

Kew College Prep is committed to being a sustainable and environmentally friendly school. We aim to reduce our carbon footprint and to implement and pursue practices which will help to foster an awareness and understanding of the environment in both pupils and staff.

The school is committed to protecting and enhancing the environment to prevent habitat and biodiversity loss, combat climate change and prevent the pollution of land, water and air, where possible.

The school has a duty to prepare future generations with the knowledge and skills to manage the world's resources wisely. Pupils are expected to demonstrate an active interest in and concern for all-natural environments and we hope to encourage each pupil to recognise their role in tending to the future of the planet.

The school recognises that its activities can have a significant impact on the local and global environments. The way the school environment is managed and maintained should provide an example to pupils of how to respect and care for the environment. Wherever possible pupils and staff are encouraged and expected to adopt sustainable practices. It aims not only to minimise negative environmental impacts arising from activities, but also to maximise the positive impact through effective management of the school's operations and through the content of the school's curriculum.

Education for sustainable development should give pupils a greater understanding of both natural and human systems through a range of immediate environmental experiences that engage their senses, emotions and thinking. It should enable the school community to develop a life ethic that values all people and the natural environment. Ultimately it should ensure that each pupil understands and respects their environment, both inside and outside of school.

Thanks to the enthusiasm, hard work and co-operation of teachers and pupils across the school community Kew College Prep achieved the Eco Schools Green Flag, with Merit in July 2023, an internationally recognised award for excellence in environmental action and learning. In June 2023 the School was awarded a 'Highly Commended' judgement in City Kids Magazine Green Awards for Education.

2. SPECIFIC POLICY AIMS

- To minimise the procurement and use of non-renewable and environmentally unfriendly resources (which includes new builds and refurbishment of existing buildings) and encourage recycling throughout the whole school
- To raise awareness with pupils and staff about key environmental issues, and by doing so encourage them to take an active role in environmental projects
- Provide pupils with opportunities in and outside the curriculum to explore sustainability and sustainable development. This includes ability for pupils to become:
 - EcoWarriors – to effect positive environmental change, and encourage recycling
 - Junior Travel Ambassadors - promoting sustainable travel
- To develop relationships with external organisations to promote environmentally friendly behaviour both within and outside of school

3. INSIDE THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS

3.1. Paper

- Staff are encouraged to use electronic devices or online resources where possible instead of paper
- Photocopy paper for internal use is 100% recycled
- Staff are requested not to laminate documents/displays, unless absolutely necessary
- Staff are asked to use double-sided photocopying wherever possible
- Staff and pupils are asked to use the paper recycling bins to recycle all paper
- Staff and pupils are asked not to print documents unless it is necessary
- Staff, pupils, and parents are asked to use e-mail wherever possible avoiding copying paper, to colleagues, pupils or parents

3.2. Computers

- Staff and pupils are asked to ensure that all computers, screens, printers, and projectors are turned off after their last use of the day.

3.3. Lighting

- Staff and pupils are asked to turn off lights whenever they are not being used
- All lighting is LED, and where possible movement sensitive lights are installed
- Reminder posters are placed above light switches in all classrooms and offices set up by the Eco Warriors.

3.4. Water

- Establish and raise awareness of simple actions that can cut down on water use

3.5. Energy

- Effective energy saving measures are identified and implemented where possible and reasonably practicable (modern boilers for example)
- Alternative sources of energy such as solar power are considered

3.6. Recycling

- Responsible consumption and recycling are promoted through assemblies, and form times
- Where generation of waste cannot be prevented, recycling is encouraged:
 - Installed at the front of the School is a clothing and shoes collection bank
 - Waste streams are in place at each school building to reduce amount of waste going to landfill – Paper, Batteries, crisp packets, bread bags and pens
 - There are three recycling bins for plastic in the playground, which are emptied regularly by the caretaker and the contents put in the council waste recycling
 - Paper is collected in recycling boxes in each classroom and emptied daily by members of the EcoWarriors into the waste recycling bins
 - Batteries are collected in each classroom and transferred to a central collection bin in main school by the Eco Warriors
 - Cartridges from computer ink are placed in a labelled bin and collected for recycling
 - Recycling provision is included in staff room
 - Crisp packets and bread bags are recycled by the Kew College school community.
- Food and drink:
 - Pupils are encouraged to reduce their consumption of plastic wrapped snacks in preference for biodegradable/ compostable lunch and snack packaging
 - The School has two water fountains in the playground to discourage the use of single use plastic water bottles
 - Pupils that eat packed lunches take their uneaten food, and packaging home so that it can be recycled
 - Our School lunch provider delivers hot lunches in biodegradable packaging, reuses the hotboxes which are all compostable and are collected daily by a composting company.

3.7. Books, Equipment and Uniform

- Outdated or unwanted equipment is offered to others who might have a use for it via PTA or other charities
- Parents are offered the chance to resell uniform in good condition at second -hand uniform sales arranged by PTA, with the proceeds of sales going to the School or its nominated charity
- Unwanted books are first offered to parents/children to have, any unwanted books are then collected by World of Books for re-sale and we are paid for them by the kg
- Redundant computer equipment is recycled by an authorised contractor

4. OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

4.1. Transport

- The School raises awareness about the impact of transport has on the environment and people's health
- The School participates in the STARS accreditation scheme, and since 2019 has achieved Gold status. STARS inspires young Londoners to travel to school sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely by championing walking, scooting and cycling. STARS supports pupils' wellbeing, helps to reduce congestion at the School gates and improve road safety and air quality around the School site.

- The School has a robust travel plan which includes realistic and achievable goals
- The School has 2 Junior Travel Ambassadors, who run assemblies and activities to encourage pupils and staff to commute to school using active and environmentally friendly methods
- The School provides adequate and safe facilities to store bicycles and scooters for pupils and staff
- When planning educational visits, staff are encouraged to consider the use of environmentally friendly methods of transport
- The School encourages staff to use public transport wherever possible to attend conferences/courses

4.2. Litter

- All members of the School community are encouraged to prevent and clear litter from the School grounds.
- Pupils are encouraged to regard litter clearing as a positive environmental action, which also helps foster a sense of personal pride and responsibility in pupils
- Twice termly the Eco Warriors do a local litter picking. The whole school also pledged to do litter picking in the Easter holidays as part of the Great British Clean Up initiative.

4.3. School Grounds

- The School uses the School grounds as a source of teaching and learning opportunities for pupils
- The Sedum building has a Sedum green roof. It is drought tolerant and therefore requires limited watering. The roof benefits the environment encouraging wildlife and biodiversity, as well as improving air quality due to the filtering mechanisms of plants
- The School ensures that the grounds provide for recreational use by pupils as well as providing a safe space to undertake exercise
- The School develops areas of biodiversity and enhances green spaces on the School site to encourage wildlife and support health and wellbeing – by creating bird feeding areas in the garden and planting by the Eco Warriors.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The implementation of this policy is overseen by the Environment and Sustainability Working Group (ESWG), which is led by our Sustainability Champion who reports to the member of Governing Body with responsibility for Environment and Sustainability.

6. REPORTING

Annual progress against the policy and related strategic actions are reported to the Governing Body by the ESWG.

Approved by:	Updated by:
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Title: Head	Title: Sustainability Champion
Date: 2 Sep 2024	Date: 2 Sep 2024