

## Eco Policy

Document Detail	
<b>Policy Reference Number:</b>	38
<b>Category:</b>	Pupil Related
<b>Authorised By:</b>	Trust Board
<b>Status:</b>	
<b>Chair of Trust Board Signature</b>	
<b>Date Approved:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>Issue Date:</b>	May 2018
<b>Next Review Date:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Contents

Section Title	Page No.
Our Philosophy	3
Purpose	3
Implementation and Monitoring:	
The Role of the Eco Schools Coordinator	4
Energy	4
Waste and Recycling	5
Water	6
Litter	6
Communication	7
Health and Safety	7
Inclusion	7

### **Our philosophy:**

The Trust is committed to educating its pupils about caring for and respecting the environment and developing responsible citizens who are able to make valuable decisions. The Eco Warriors at each of our schools have a key role in achieving this and are a paramount part of our Eco-Schools programme. The Eco Warriors represent the whole school community.

#### **Purpose:**

- To ensure a whole school approach to caring for the environment
- To give pupils responsibilities and promote team work
- To develop pupils' skills in the decision-making process
- To develop an awareness of environmental issues
- To develop a structure to implement the national Eco-Schools programme
- To become more sustainable in the school environment and reduce the environmental impact of the whole school
- Promote environmental awareness
- To develop an awareness of global issues
- To develop a whole school approach in promoting environmental awareness – pupils, all staff, governors, parents and members of the wider community
- To help create a shared understanding of what is needed in order to run a school in a way that respects and enhances the environment
- To link environmental issues in with the curriculum as well as the daily running life of the school.

Each school is a member of the Eco Schools programme. This is an international initiative that encourages pupils to engage with environment and sustainable development issues. It provides a highly structured system for the environmental management of schools. ([www.eco-schools.org](http://www.eco-schools.org)). The structure of the Eco-Schools process is made up of seven steps and this forms the basis of the programme.

The seven steps include:

- Eco Committee
- Environmental Review
- Action Plan
- Linking to the curriculum
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Involving the whole school and the wider community
- Eco Code

The pupils mainly drive the Eco Warriors with the support of adults. The Eco Warriors then undertake an Environmental Review and from this devise an Action Plan. The curriculum is also integrated. Progress is then evaluated, and improvements are monitored.

The Eco warriors need to involve and inform the wider community of their actions. The Eco Warriors produce an Eco Code which is agreed with the rest of the school which reflects their aims and ethos. This code will cover four main areas:

- Energy
- Waste and Recycling
- Water
- Litter

The Eco Warriors consist of pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 and an adult (the Eco Schools Coordinator). One child from each year group is elected by their peers. The Eco Warriors aim to meet each half term to discuss ideas and campaigns. Minutes from each meeting are to be recorded by the Eco Schools Coordinator and ideas fed back to the rest of the school and the wider community.

### **Implementation and Monitoring:**

The Head Teacher and Eco Schools Coordinator will monitor the ethos and culture of the school to ensure it reflects a whole school value of caring for the environment by:

- Completing Action Plans each academic year
- Monitoring and implementing national and local initiatives when they arise
- Ensuring there are adequate resources and appropriate training for staff to ensure the school can educate and promote in caring for the environment.

### **The Role of the Eco Schools Coordinator is to:**

- Contribute to policy updates
- Complete Action Plans each academic year
- Participate in the Eco Schools Scheme
- Keep staff informed of actions and new developments
- Co-ordinate focus environment weeks
- Keep a portfolio of evidence of action areas
- Co-ordinate / provide staff INSET
- Involve outside agencies

## **Energy**

The Trust understands that there is a need to improve the way we use energy and we are committed to become more energy efficient in order to reduce the environmental impact of our activities. We will strive to find new ways to ensure that we are using energy wisely. We understand the principles of energy management and will strive to implement these principles in the following ways:

- To raise awareness of the importance of monitoring energy consumption by helping take regular meter readings and tracking progress. Share progress with the whole school through the Eco Warriors display board.
- To make pupils aware of the link between energy supply, use and the potential damage to the environment
- To make pupils aware of the link between energy use and cost
- Form partnerships with energy providers, who could help us put in place energy saving measures
- Encourage energy saving suggestions from all staff and pupils
- Staff and pupils will take responsibility for ensuring daily minimal energy waste and Eco Warriors will monitor classrooms to ensure lighting is turned off when the classrooms are empty.

## **Waste and Recycling**

The Trust understands the sustainability principles of Reduce, Re-use and Recycle and will strive to implement these principles in the following ways:

### **Reduce**

- Staff will only purchase the amount of resources that they need.
- The whole school will be encouraged to write and print on both sides of paper.

### **Re-use**

- The whole school will re-use any paper as scrap when possible.
- Staff and the PTA will ensure that any unwanted uniform is re-distributed to those pupils who would benefit from additional uniform.
- The whole school community will donate any unwanted clothes to a registered charity for re-use.
- Pupils will wash out suitable containers for re-use in junk modelling.

### **Recycle**

- Staff will ensure that bins are available for collecting paper, milk cartons, plastic and cardboard.
- Pupils will use the recycle bins provided for all paper, milk cartons, plastic and cardboard.
- Site manager will arrange collection of ink cartridges from school to be recycled.
- Staff will continue to increase the amount of waste food that is composted within school. The Gardening Club and Eco Warriors will use any compost we produce.
- Staff to try and source re-cycled products as much as possible.

## **Water**

The Trust understands that there is a need to improve the way we use water and we are committed to become more mindful of the ways we use water in order to reduce the environmental impact of our activities. We will strive to find new ways to ensure that we are using water wisely. We

understand the principles of water management and will strive to implement these principles in the following ways:

- To raise awareness of the importance of monitoring water consumption by helping take regular meter readings and tracking progress. Share the progress with the whole school through the Eco Warriors display board.
- To make pupils aware of the link between water supply, use and the potential damage to the environment.
- To make pupils aware of the link between water use and cost.
- Form partnerships with water providers, who could help us put in place water saving measures.
- Encourage water saving suggestions from all staff and pupils.
- Staff and pupils will take responsibility for ensuring daily minimal water waste and Eco Warriors will monitor classrooms to ensure taps are closed and not dripping when not in use.

## **Litter**

The Trust believes that our pupils have the right to learn in a clean and healthy, litter free environment.

### **Responsibilities**

#### **Staff:**

- Remind everyone not to drop litter through the taught curriculum and assemblies.
- Support pupils and help them deal with any litter problems.

#### **Pupils:**

- Don't drop litter.
- Use litter bins provided.
- Be responsible for keeping our classrooms, school and grounds clean and tidy.
- Remember to dispose of litter correctly when coming to and from school.
- Bin our rubbish or take it home in our lunch boxes.
- Pick up rubbish if we see it, even if we didn't drop it – and don't forget to wash hands afterwards!
- Eat healthy, natural fruit and vegetable snacks, which don't come in paper or plastic packaging.
- Use the right bins so that we can recycle and compost our waste.

#### **Eco-Warriors:**

- Monitor any litter problems in the wider community and address any problems.
- Promote a litter free environment to other pupils.

#### **Communication:**

This policy will be shared with all staff and pupils and the wider community and reviewed every two years. Through this policy we will actively encourage the whole school community to take responsibility to care for and respect the environment in which we live.

**Health and safety :**

Health and safety issues will be considered in all activities and relate to the Trusts health and safety policy. This policy will have close links to citizenship, education for sustainable development, personal and social education and health education.

**Inclusion:**

All pupils, regardless of race, gender, culture or disability shall have the opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of caring for their environment and developing a caring attitude. The Inclusive Multi Academy Trust will promote equal opportunities.