

Netherhall School

An Ambitious, Caring Community



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Adopted by Netherhall School Governing Body On: 1 September 202 3

Signed:  (Neil Watt, Chair of Governors)

Date by which the procedure was last reviewed: September 202 3

Anticipated review date: September 202 4

Equality Act 2010

Our school is committed to equality both as an employer and a service provider. We welcome our general duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations. In addition, we recognise our specific duties to publish information every year about our school population; explain how we have due regard for equality; publish equality objectives which show how we plan to tackle particular inequalities and reduce or remove them.

We recognise our duty to ensure no-one experiences harassment, less favourable treatment or discrimination because of their age, any disability they may have, their ethnicity, colour or national origin, their gender identity or reassignment, their marital or civil partnership status, being pregnant or having recently had a baby, their religion or belief, their sexual identity and orientation.

We also welcome our duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote community cohesion and British values.

VISION

At Netherhall School we understand that our operations and activities can have a negative as well as a positive effect on our environment.

Netherhall School and Netherhall Community Sports Centre will continually strive to minimise its impact on the environment by the implementation of initiatives and educating staff, students and visitors to the site.

Our commitment is to comply with or exceed all relevant UK and European environmental legislation, whilst seeking to reduce our carbon footprint as both a responsible organisation and to meet the high standards expected from all our stakeholders and partners.

Our position at the heart of the local community places unique responsibilities and opportunities upon us. Our role as educators of future generations shall ensure that lessons learnt today are used to protect and restore the environment and ensure ongoing sustainable operations and developments for the future.

This policy shall be owned and communicated to all who work, learn and visit Netherhall School. The Governing body alongside the Senior Management Team, shall review, revise and ensure we all work together to adopt and further develop this policy.

Key Objectives

The objectives of the school are: -

- Reduction in utility consumption
- Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill
- Utilisation of new "Green Technologies"
- Educate staff and pupils in eco-friendly and sustainable practices
- Integrate principles of environmental sustainability into all School policies and practices

In order to deliver these goals new strategies will be formulated. At its foundation shall be the ethos of

- Reducing the amount of material we use and waste we produce
- Re-using materials and resources wherever possible
- Respecting our community and the environment

Actions

Significant cost savings may be achieved by reducing our utility requirements and reducing the amount of waste produced and sent to landfill. This may be achieved via several strategies, current strategies include:

- Ensuring all boiler plant and heating system components are annually serviced to ensure optimum performance.
- A number of gas boilers have been replaced on site and upgraded to more efficient models operating on the correct kw rating calculations and installed with zone timers.

- As part of the school locking up procedures the site team make every effort to switch off all manual LED lighting to classrooms, offices and corridors throughout the school to minimise unnecessary utility costs.
- Daily monitoring of plant control systems, to provide a comfortable, balanced working environment.
- Pre-sorting of waste streams to ensure all metals, electrical waste, paper and cardboard, timber and any serviceable items are separated and disposed of accordingly and within existing waste legislation guidelines. Waste paper recycling bins are located in all classrooms and office areas.
- All utility consumption bills are now actual and not estimated which eliminates the possibility of overcharging.
- The school now operates solely on a LED lighting system, removing all incandescent lighting and using significantly less energy.
- Meters installed to electricity and water sub mains identifying accurate usage.
- Lighting sensors installed to LED lighting in all corridors/communal areas.
- Electric car charging points installed to the school and sports centre car parks.
- The school makes every effort to source all products and food from local suppliers ensuring more money stays in the local economy and aiding the local environment.
- Metal and plastic collection points located in the canteen areas for recycling.

Proposed improvements

- Investigate combined heat /power units and solar power

How staff and pupils can help

- Switch of all unnecessary lighting and equipment when not in use
- Recycle all paper and cardboard waste
- Write and print on both sides of paper whenever possible
- Send all used printer and toner cartridges for recycling
- Don't print documents and emails unnecessarily, utilise electronic storage mediums as much as possible
- Turn off all taps whenever possible
- Involve students in education and awareness campaigns

SUSTAINABILITY

Rationale

Netherhall School will actively pursue strategies to reduce our current and future demands on the planets dwindling resources. Additionally, increasing legislation, high utility costs and UK Governmental commitments to international commitments and initiatives require all organisations to develop strategies designed to significantly reduce their impact on the planet and reduce their carbon emissions.

Strategies formulated now will ensure Netherhall School is best prepared for the challenges ahead, thus avoiding any sanctions and penalties imposed for delayed implementation or non-compliance of directives and legislation.

Further improvements include.

- Managing grounds and estate in a way that minimises our impact on the environment
- Work with partner agencies, to ensure all site activities are sympathetic to the environment
- Aim to further reduce our Display Energy Certificate (DEC) score
- All procurement of electrical goods to be vetted to ensure only energy efficient or products with acceptable i.e. A or B categorisations are purchased
- Reduce usage of chemicals and substances that are harmful to the environment
- Promote car sharing and cycle to work schemes
- Ensure all hazardous waste is dealt with appropriately using licensed contractors
- Recycle and re-use goods, office furniture, files, lost property etc