CHRIST CHURCH C.E. FIRST SCHOOL

-Environmental Sustainability Policy-

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CHRIST CHURCH FIRST SCHOOL

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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The Trust is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that pupils have the necessary skills and knowledge to understand environmental concerns, so that they can apply this to their lives and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle.

We encourage both pupils and staff to think about the environment and how their actions will impact upon their local surroundings, as well as the global environment.

Effective use of this policy will ensure pupils are taught about environmental sustainability, promote an ecofriendly attitude, and ensure that the school itself is as sustainable as it can be.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Climate Change Act 2008
- The Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Control of Pollution Act 1974
- DfE (2012) 'Top tips for sustainability in schools'
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013
- GEMS Tips to reduce energy and water use in schools.
- Sustainability and Climate Change: a strategy for education and children's services April 2022

Roles and responsibilities

The Director Board is responsible for:

- Reviewing the environmental and sustainability policy
- Consider environmental impacts where any new buildings or refurbishments are being planned.

The Local Governing Committee is responsible for:

- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage.
- Identifying, with the site manager, energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this, such as installing motion sensor lights.
- Ensuring where possible that equipment purchased is made from sustainable resources, for example, biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic.

The school is responsible for:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, governors, pupils, parents, and the local community to improve and sustain the world today for future generations.
- Sharing good practice with pupils, parents, and the community, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy.
- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities.
- Sharing the responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practising policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that teaching staff have the necessary knowledge to teach pupils about environmental concerns.
- Ensuring that staff and pupils understand the importance of energy conservation, for example, ensuring that they turn lights off when not in use.
- Communicating with disposal companies regarding the disposal of recyclable and non-recyclable waste, so that the school can implement a waste disposal procedure for all staff and pupils to follow.
- Ensuring that catering staff understand the importance of recycling and disposing of waste sustainably.
- Ensuring that the Site Manager understands their responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the school grounds.

Teaching staff are responsible for:

- Promoting the need for environmental sustainability in their lessons.
- Ensuring their classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that computers and lights are turned off when not in use.

The Site Manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring that outside lights are switched off when they are not needed.
- Recording energy use and reporting any waste to the Local Advisory Board
- Monitoring the cleaning staff and advising them on good energy practice.

An Eco Council/Eco Warriors will consist of pupils from Year R to Year 4. Two children 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.

Pupil 'Eco warriors' are responsible for

- Monitoring any litter problems in the wider community and address any problems.
- Promoting a litter free environment to other pupils.
- Reviewing and promoting sustainability throughout the school

Pupils are responsible for:

- Applying their learning at home and aiming to be sustainable outside of school.
- Walking or cycling to school, when possible.
- Using energy sustainably, for example, not leaving taps running.
- Be responsible for keeping our classrooms, school, and grounds clean and tidy.
- 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.

Parents are responsible for:

- Promoting an eco-friendly lifestyle at home.
- Encouraging children to walk or cycle to school, when possible.
- Recycling at home and ensuring that their children understand how to recycle.
- Reinforcing the learning that the school implements in regard to the environment.

Waste and recycling

- We will reduce the amount of waste we produce by:
  - Writing and printing on both sides of paper wherever possible.
  - Using emails as much as possible, to reduce paper waste.
  - Using emails, the school's website and MCAS procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste.
  - Ensuring selective waste collection and organic waste treatment for composting and mulching.
  - Putting used paper in a scrap paper drawer and re-using it whenever possible.
  - Only printing documents when it is essential.
  - Making sure that all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via re-use or recycling schemes.
  - Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.

- Pupils will be encouraged to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles.
- Any disposable plastic bottles brought into school will be recycled.
- There will be clearly labelled bins located throughout the school for recycling and general waste.
- We will display posters explaining important environmental considerations, for example, what sort of waste can be recycled and how litter can be detrimental to the environment.
- Any paper containing personal or sensitive information will not be re-used and will be disposed of in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy.
- Teachers will encourage pupils to partake in weekly litter picking around the school grounds as well within the local area.
- WEEE is regulated to reduce the number of devices and equipment that is incinerated or sent to landfill sites. To reduce the school's carbon footprint and minimise the impact on global warming, the necessary steps are taken to ensure WEEE is disposed of properly.
- The types of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) the school will safely dispose of include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Desktop computers
  - Servers
  - Laptops
  - Monitors
  - Printers
  - Projectors
  - Scanners
  - Interactive whiteboards

- The headteacher, in collaboration with the technician, will find a suitable partner, to dispose of WEEE safely. The headteacher will contact the agreed contractor for more information and guidance, where necessary.
- Before disposal, the technician will ensure data is securely deleted or backed-up in accordance with the Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy.

Littering

- The school understands that, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, littering is a criminal offence. It also understands that fines may be incurred where individuals deliberately litter the premises.
- Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly. Specifically, individuals are responsible for:
    - Putting litter in a bin.
    - Using the appropriate recycling bins.
    - Using resources thoughtfully.
    - Reusing resources where possible.
    - Assisting the site manager and eco warriors with the cleanliness of the premises.

- The Site Manager takes overall responsibility for the overall cleanliness of the school premises.
- The Site Manager arranges and coordinates waste disposal from the premises and ensures that items are disposed of correctly.
- The school appoints an eco-committee consisting of staff members and pupils, who are responsible for:
    - Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school
    - Monitoring the school's anti-littering procedures.
    - Listening and responding to questions from the school committee.
    - To mitigate risks of littering, the school implements the following procedures:
    - Waste disposal – bins are provided throughout the school, with additional bins provided in eating areas, to ensure sufficient availability for waste disposal.
    - The school raises awareness of anti-littering amongst pupils and staff through dedicated assemblies, PSHE lessons, staff training days and additional resources, such as leaflets and posters.
    - Any individual known to have littered the premises will be required to dispose of the litter correctly.
    - Pupils in Year 4 are responsible for litter-picking in the afternoons

Transport

- Pupils and staff will be encouraged to walk to school, where possible.
- The benefits of daily exercise, such as walking to school when possible, will be promoted throughout the school.
- We will encourage teachers and other members of staff to car share whenever possible, for example, when travelling to external training days.
- We will produce informative material, such as posters and leaflets, regarding the impact of the carbon emissions produced by personal vehicles and public transport on the environment, which will be displayed and distributed around the school.
- We will take part in the WOW Walk to School Initiative to encourage more children to walk, cycle, scoot or park and stride to achieve the badges.
- We will have suitable and safe storage for staff and pupils to store bicycles.
- We recognise that there are risks involved when individuals choose to walk or cycle to school; therefore, we will organise road safety lessons in PSHRE.

School grounds

- The Local Governing Committee and the site manager will monitor the consumption of energy within the school, recognising where the school is wasting energy and implementing measures to reduce energy consumption, e.g., introducing motion sensitive lights.
- Energy saving lightbulbs will be used throughout the school when lighting is being replaced.
- When new buildings or refurbishments are being planned, we will always consider any environmental impacts and the Board of Directors will consult an expert.

Healthy living

- We will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment.
- We will discourage environmental indifference and promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment.
- We will encourage staff and pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.
- We will ensure pupils complete the daily mile exercise each day.

Sustainable farming and fishing

- We will teach pupils where food comes from as part of the PSHE and science lessons, including giving them firsthand experience of growing their own fruit or vegetables.
- School meals will be designed with due regard to seasonal produce and locally sourced food.
- Where possible, we will approach local food suppliers for their produce to be used in school meals.
- Pupils will be taught about the importance of sustainable fishing and farming, and any fish products used in school meals will be sustainably sourced.

Energy

- We will reduce our energy usage by:
    - Switching off lights when they're not in use.
    - Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather and installing draught excluders so that warm air is retained.
    - Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example, computers, projectors, and interactive white boards, when they're not in use.
    - Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly.
    - Insulating hot water pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of frozen pipes in winter.
    - Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority by the site manager.
    - Auditing the amount of energy used each term.
    - Upgrading the school's water heater system so that they are more efficient
    - Upgrading all lights to LED in the main buidling
    - Displaying information around the school and in classrooms to ensure that pupils understand the importance of switching off lights, computers and taps when they're not in use.
    - Monitoring the environmental sustainability of suppliers and adjusting procurement arrangements accordingly.
    - Making all members of the school's community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs.

- Appointing an individual, e.g., the site manager, to ensure that these measures are carried out.

- We will display our Display Energy Certificate in plain sight, for example, in the school foyer.
- We are committed to reducing our overall carbon emissions. Emissions will be reduced by: Implementing renewable technologies that export surplus energy to the national grid.
    - Implementing a rewards system for pupils and/or staff who reduce carbon emissions by walking, cycling, or taking public transport to school.
    - Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around school.
    - Promoting the benefits of recycling.
    - Sourcing school supplies from UK suppliers as much as possible.

- We will communicate with our LA and other schools to enhance our provisions and continue to develop and implement best practice within the school.

Sustainable procurement of goods

- We will devote time to ensuring product procurement is done in the most sustainable way.
- Our purchasing team will ensure that produce bought is cost efficient and sourced from within the UK or locally where possible.
- We will obtain contracts with suppliers that stipulate their terms of purchase, paying particular regard to pricing, quality, and their returns policy.

Curriculum

- We aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability, by embedding the topics within many areas of our curriculum. Individual school curriculums will outline how the topics are embedded into the school's curriculum.
- We will consider 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). 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

CHRIST CHURCH FIRST SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Phase	Area of school	Work required	Timeframe	Estimated cost
1	Main hall Entrance corridor Library Year 1 classroom School office Headteacher's office Office corridor	Fit LED lighting to existing fittings in all of these areas	Easter holidays 2024	£2,900
1	PIR lighting on playground PIR lighting on drive	To fit PIR lighting on the exterior of school to light playground and drive area to address the H&S issues arising from poor lighting	Easter holidays 2024	£2,400
2	EYFS classroom Year 3 classroom Staffroom	Fit LED lighting to existing fittings in all of these areas	Easter holidays 2025	£2,300
2	Front entrance	To fit LED light to cover the front door and step access	Easter holidays 2025	as above
3	Main corridor – rear Pupil toilets in main building Staff toilets Corridor to playground (Y3) Staircase to staffroom Photocopying room Kitchen (Inc. corridor) EYFS store Music/chair store	To fit LED lighting to existing fittings	Christmas 2025	£2,800

	Sustainability Action Plan	Due Date	Completed
1	Fit LED lighting throughout main building	Autumn Term 2025	October 2025
2	Reduce plastic waste • Replace all staff hand soap with reusable bottles and soap tablets • No single-use plastic bottles in school – buy reusable bottles for pupils to borrow • No single use plastic in catering	September 2025	 January 2025 March 2025 September 2025
3	Reduce food waste generated in school • Encourage pupils not to waste food • Packed lunch waste to be taken home	Summer Term 2025	 Ongoing Reinforced autumn term 2025
4	Reduce energy costs • Staff to turn off all electrical equipment at the end of the school day • Heating to be used only when required • Staff to charge their own devices at home • Staff and children encouraged to turn off lights when rooms not in use • Keep external doors closed when pupils are in class to retain heat • Eco spies to turn off lights	 September 2025 November 2025 November 2025 December 2025	 Ongoing
5	Reduce paper waste • Staff to photocopy what is essential and avoid if there is an alternative option • Staff to use paper sparingly • Children to use scrap paper for non-essential work • Copies to be reduce to A5, if possible, to reduce the amount of copying.	 September 2025 September 2025 September 2025	 Ongoing