



**MOOR PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND NURSERY**

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

September 2025

Policy	Sustainability Policy
Reviewed by	Charlotte Harrison
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Approval level	Head of School
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Next review due	September 2026

Mission Statement

Together as family, we grow and achieve.

1. Aims and Values

At Moor Park, we are committed to creating a sustainable future for our pupils, staff, and the wider community. Our sustainability policy is designed to foster an environment where environmental stewardship, resource conservation, and social responsibility are integral to our educational mission.

We aim to integrate sustainable practices into every aspect of school life, ensuring that our actions today support the well-being of future generations. Our goal is to reduce our environmental impact, promote awareness about sustainability, and to educate and empower our students and staff to take positive actions that contribute to a healthier planet.

We intend to:

- Foster an ethos of sustainability within our school community.
- Provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to make informed and responsible environmental choices.
- Reduce our carbon footprint, minimise waste, and conserve resources through practical and effective initiatives.
- Engage our school community in sustainable practices, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our sustainability efforts are built on the foundation of our school's core values:

- **Care:** We show care for our environment, the resources we use, and the well-being of others by making choices that promote long-term sustainability and health.
- **Responsibility:** We take responsibility for our impact on the environment and actively work to minimise our ecological footprint. Through education and action, we are shaping future leaders who understand the importance of responsibility to the planet.
- **Resourcefulness:** We are resourceful in finding creative solutions to sustainability challenges, ensuring that our resources are used efficiently and effectively, now and in the future.

We are committed to maintaining and strengthening our participation in key sustainability initiatives. These include:

- **Eco-Schools:** We continue to work with Eco-Schools to embed sustainability practices throughout our school, focusing on environmental management, waste reduction, and promoting biodiversity.

- **The UK Schools Sustainability Network:** We actively engage with the UK Schools Sustainability Network, sharing best practices, learning from others, and collaborating on initiatives that drive environmental change.
- **Local Eco Network:** We are proud to be part of our local eco network, working together with neighbouring schools, businesses, and community organisations to promote sustainability at a local level.

By adhering to these principles and engaging with established sustainability programs, we are confident that we can inspire meaningful change and make a lasting impact on our community and the environment.

At Moor Park, sustainability is an integral part of who we are. Through our collective efforts, we will continue to build a sustainable, responsible, and resourceful future for our students and for the planet.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The staff must work collaboratively as a team to ensure a sustainable and effective education for the children. Each member plays a vital role, from teachers delivering engaging lessons to support staff providing resources and assistance. By communicating openly and sharing their expertise, they create an inclusive, nurturing atmosphere where children can thrive, preparing them for a successful future.

Role	Responsibilities
SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPL plans incorporate sustainability, such as integrating climate change and sustainability into Science/Geography CPL and offering sustainable usage training for all staff. • Evaluate every subject policy within the next 12 months, focusing on sustainability and high-quality outdoor education. • Collaborate with premises and school business teams to identify investment areas that will reduce carbon emissions and enhance sustainability and resilience. • Create and implement the school's climate action plan by September 2025. • Share the sustainability policy with the entire school community.
Sustainability Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete carbon literacy training and oversee the implementation of this training for all staff. • Determine suitable areas of the school grounds to be used as environmental classrooms. • Promote school-wide involvement in environmental awareness days.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead a comprehensive sustainability audit to pinpoint current practices and future opportunities for improvement.
Curriculum/ subject leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a sustainability audit for their subject, identifying opportunities to educate students about the natural world, sustainable practices, and the circular economy. • Find ways to minimise resource usage and waste in their teaching, such as reducing printing. • Integrate Forest School and outdoor education into their curriculum area. • Implement the new primary science curriculum with a focus on nature.
School business manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt sustainable procurement practices by evaluating usage, waste, and supply chains as part of the criteria for purchasing goods and services. • Identify funding opportunities for sustainable development and lead efforts to secure such funding, such as for smart meters or low-carbon boiler replacements. • Promote waste reduction practices within the school to encourage sustainable and cost-efficient behaviours, like reducing printing and turning off lights.
Caretaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the school grounds are clean and safe to support effective outdoor learning. • Preserve the verges around the school sports fields as wild grassland areas to promote biodiversity. • Ensure all lights, taps, and unused appliances are turned off at the end of each day. • Carry out energy and water usage audits at the end of every term.
Governors/ trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and apply strategies for the trust to minimize waste by sharing resources across schools. • Assess the sustainability of a school's practices and procedures when evaluating its inclusion in the trust. • Promote the trust's core values of environmentalism, sustainability, and respect for the natural world.

3. Curriculum and Learning

At Moor Park, we recognise the vital role that education plays in shaping a sustainable future. In alignment with the Department for Education's (DfE) sustainability and climate change strategy, we are committed to empowering our children to develop a deep understanding of the natural world, sustainability and climate change. We know that our children are passionate about protecting the environment, and we aim to harness this enthusiasm by embedding sustainability into every aspect of our curriculum and school culture. Our approach acknowledges that meaningful change takes time, and we are committed to a long-term roadmap for curriculum development and whole-school engagement.

Our curriculum will provide structured and ongoing opportunities for children to explore environmental issues, understand global and local impacts of climate change, and take informed, positive action. In the next academic year, we will undertake a full review of all subject policies to identify ways to integrate sustainability. We will draw from international case studies and explore innovative climate solutions. Cross-curricular links will highlight the relevance of environmental issues in all subjects.

Learning will extend beyond the classroom. We aim for our school grounds to be used as a living environmental classroom, allowing children to observe ecosystems, participate in outdoor learning, and develop a practical connection to nature. We will celebrate environmental awareness days such as Earth Day, World Ocean Day and Clean Air Day, using these moments to educate and inspire action. Extracurricular activities like an eco-club and gardening club will provide further opportunities for children to learn through hands-on experience.

To support this work, we will develop continuous professional learning (CPL) for staff, sharing best practices and resources to enable confident and effective teaching of sustainability topics. We will also build partnerships with local businesses and community groups to offer children real-world insight into sustainable practices which encourage wider community engagement. This policy represents a firm step towards embedding sustainability across our school and nurturing a generation of informed, responsible global citizens.

4. Food and Catering

We understand the importance of making responsible choices about the food we serve, both for the health of our children and the health of the planet. While we acknowledge that some aspects of our catering provision are dependent on external arrangements with our local authority, we are actively working to make meaningful changes within our capacity. Wherever possible, we will prioritise the use of locally sourced, seasonal ingredients in our school lunches.

We will also continue to support initiatives which help reduce the environmental impact of our food such as taking part in “Meat-Free-Mondays” to lower our carbon footprint. In parallel, we will embed food education into our curriculum to promote children’s understanding of where food comes from, the impact of food production on the environment, and the benefits of making sustainable dietary choices.

5. Waste and Recycling

As part of our commitment to promoting the circular economy, Moor Park will take a whole-school approach to reducing waste, reusing resources, and recycling wherever possible. We will ensure that clearly labelled bins for recycling, food waste and general waste are available throughout the school, supported by informative posters to help children and staff use them correctly.

To reduce paper waste, we will promote double-sided printing, maintain scrap-paper drawers in classrooms, and prioritise digital communication over printed materials. Staff will be encouraged to consider which resources can be reused at the end of each term, and we will promote the use of reusable water bottles to reduce single-use plastics.

Additionally, themed days such as World Book Day will focus on creativity and sustainability, encouraging children to celebrate the occasion in ways which do not promote fast fashion. For example, in recent years, children have been required to ‘make a hat’ from recycled household items, with recognition for the most inventive designs.

We will also support circular practices in our purchasing decisions by considering sustainability when selecting suppliers, and we will continue to offer second-hand uniforms, bags and other school supplies at low or no cost.

6. Energy and Water

To reduce our environmental impact and build a more sustainable school, we are committed to taking practical steps to reduce both energy and water usage across school. We recognise that some improvements like implementing sustainable drainage systems, installing smart meters or upgrading low-carbon boilers, will require further time and investment. We are dedicated to seeking funding opportunities and allocating resources in future budgets to make such upgrades possible. In the meantime, we will prioritise practical, low-cost measure that can have a meaningful impact. These include encouraging all staff and children to switch off lights and appliances when not in use, installing draft excluders where needed, and displaying posters throughout school to raise awareness about energy and water conservation.

We will conduct regular audits of our energy and water use each term to help us track progress and identify areas for improvement. We are also committed to delivering CPL for all staff to increase awareness around energy and water usage, so that sustainability becomes part of our everyday school culture. Staff will be equipped with strategies to reduce consumption in classrooms and shared spaces, and we will involve children in these

efforts by helping them understand their role in saving resources. Children will be informed of the effects of our current initiatives, including the installation of tap sensors in the toilets and light sensors in the classrooms. Through a combination of small behavioural changes and long-term planning, we aim to reduce our usage and inspire a culture of sustainability throughout our school community.

7. Transport and Travel

At Moor Park, encouraging sustainable transport is an important part of our broader commitment to environmental responsibility. We understand that transport choices can vary depending on our location, but we are dedicated to supporting children, families and staff in adopting greener travel habits wherever possible.

To promote active travel among children, we provide cycle safety lessons (Bikeability) in Key Stage 2 to help them develop the skills and confidence needed for safe cycling. We also participate in initiatives like the Living Streets' WOW - Walk to School Challenge, which rewards children with badges for walking, cycling or scootering to school. For staff, we promote lift-sharing for off-site events and training sessions to help reduce car usage and emissions. Additionally, we are working towards auditing the carbon footprint of our school trips and will use this information to make more sustainable choices for future travel.

8. Buildings and Grounds

Our goal is to cultivate a clean, green environment that promotes both learning and wellbeing, while helping children build a stronger connection to the natural world. To ensure our school remains tidy and respectful, we will provide ample bins around school and regularly organise litter-picking activities that involve both children and staff such as Keep Britain Tidy's Great Big School Clean event.

With help from The National Education Nature Park, we are identifying and preserving existing natural habitats, turning them into outdoor classrooms where children can explore local biodiversity, ecosystems, and conservation. Furthermore, we are enhancing areas of the school not used for sports, such as our Quiet Garden, by increasing plant variety and creating new habitats for wildlife. We are also looking at ways to minimise the use of pesticides and herbicides, opting for more eco-friendly groundskeeping methods. To deepen children's engagement with the environment, we plan to install a weather monitoring station, allowing children to track local weather patterns and connect this data with their studies on climate and sustainability.

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

We will review our progress annually through comprehensive sustainability audits, which will help us assess the effectiveness of our initiatives and identify areas for improvement. Key metrics, such as reductions in energy usage and waste, will be tracked to measure our environmental impact. Feedback will be collected regularly from staff, children and families to ensure that our approach remains inclusive and responsive to the school community.

Findings from these evaluations will inform updates to our Climate Action Plan, helping us to stay on track with our sustainability goals and continuously improve our practices.

Sustainability is central to our identity at Moor Park. **Together**, we commit to a brighter, greener future.