

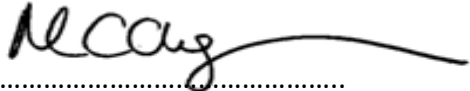



ST ALBANS GIRLS' SCHOOL

	GREEN HOUSEKEEPING		
	GB sub-committee: Finance, Premises and Operations		
	Co-ordinator: Mr P O'Neill		
	Last Reviewed: Spring 2022	Next Review: Spring 2025	

Signed by 
Margaret Chapman (Head Teacher)

Signed by 
Claire Barnard (Chair of Governors)

1.	RATIONALE
1.1	<p>St. Albans Girls' school is fully committed to the UK's strategy on sustainable development and aims continually to improve the management of its own use of resources by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working towards the targets as set out in the ATLAS Sustainability Strategic Plan mapping the Trusts journey to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, these include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserving energy, water, wood, paper and other resources, particularly those which are scarce or non renewable while still providing a safe and comfortable working environment • phasing out ozone depleting substances and minimising the release of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds, vehicle emissions and other substances damaging to health and the environment • reducing waste, recycling more and using recycled products and materials • meeting or exceeding all relevant statutory regulations and official codes of practice and requiring, where possible, contractors to do the same • using its influence as a buyer to encourage manufacturers and suppliers to develop "greener" goods and services • monitoring and reporting on the school's carbon footprint • monitoring and reporting on the school's energy usage • challenging its suppliers on their carbon footprint and sustainability plans • providing staff with the information, training and supervision necessary to enable them to carry out their duties with the minimum impact on the environment.
2.	AIMS
2.1	St. Albans Girls' School proposes to achieve these aims by continuing to pursue a number of key objectives to preserve natural resources and help prevent pollution as listed below.
2.2	The school will engage students via the eco council to have input into this policy in order to encourage students to support the delivery of this policy. Subject leaders will also be encourage to link ideas generated through the curriculum to contribute to the school.
2.3	A full review of the school generation of waste and how this can link into the school waste disposal contract. We will request that the contractor supply a baseline of recycled waste generated by the school and set targets linked to this.

	2.4	The school will work with its catering contractors to reduce the use of plastic and remove single use materials completely.
	2.5	Include sustainability as a key requirement for procurement of equipment, resources and services
	2.6	Staff to use / bring their own reusable cups / mugs / bottles to staff meetings / INSETs / when using the 6th form coffee shop.
3. PROCEDURES		
	3.1	Conservation
		The objectives to help preserve natural resources are:
	3.1.1	Energy
		<p>To minimise energy consumption. School has set itself a target of reducing consumption by 5%, which will be monitored through the school eco group, in order to achieve this we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • install an efficient gas heating system and passive solar gain where possible and affordable • install efficient lighting, equipment and controls and, where realistic and practicable, improving the fabric of our building to make it more energy efficient • investigate the provision of solar energy across the school • establish a system for monitoring and targeting our energy consumption; • continue to research into new methods and techniques for saving energy and to implement them where appropriate • ensure staff and students have a high level of energy awareness.
	3.1.2	Water
		<p>To minimise water consumption in St. Albans Girls' school buildings. In order to achieve this, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain compression taps to all wash hand basins • promote more considered use of water by staff, cleaners, contractors and tenants.
	3.1.3	Wood
		<p>To adhere to the Statement of Forest Principles signed by the Government at Rio in 1992 by encouraging sustainable forestry practices which maintain the biodiversity, productivity and ecological habitats of woodlands. In order to achieve this, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase office furnishings which, as far as possible, contain only wood from sustainable sources bearing the FSC certification.
	3.1.4	Paper
		<p>To make more economical and effective use of paper. In order to achieve this, we will, for example;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to extend the amount of recycled paper bought • make use of electronic mail and other technology to disseminate information for large documents • continue double-sided printing and copying and reuse of unwanted documents as scrap paper and reusing of old envelopes • monitor paper recycling schemes and making any necessary improvements yearly

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to promote the 'bring you own devices' initiative which is reducing the amount of printing required within lessons.
	3.1.5	Horticulture
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to encourage our grounds maintenance contractors to maintain the grounds of the St. Albans Girls' School using good husbandry and by encouraging native flora and fauna.
	3.2	Pollution
		The objectives to help prevent environmental pollution are:
	3.2.1	Climate Change
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ensure that St. Albans Girls' School makes progress towards lowering carbon dioxide emissions. where feasible, to control other gaseous and non gaseous pollutants which contribute to climate change through, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing methane by, where practicable, composting kitchen and garden wastes switching from HFCs and Sulphur Hexafluorides to environmentally friendlier substitutes where available reducing carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and oxides of nitrogen cutting vehicle emissions - see 4(c) below reducing low level ozone by cutting vehicle emissions and purchasing photocopiers, laser printers and other high voltage equipment which have ozone filters and are regularly maintained through robust agreements.
	3.2.2	Vehicle Emissions
		<p>To reduce exhaust emissions of lead, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, particulates and other pollutants. In order to achieve this we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regularly service the school minibuses and annually testing the three way catalytic converters fitted to those powered by petrol engines continue to review motor mileage allowances to encourage smaller, more fuel efficient and less polluting vehicles encourage, through the school travel plan, the use of public transport to school encourage cycling to school through the provision of improved facilities for cyclists.
	3.2.3	Hazardous Substances
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to minimise the use of substances which are labelled as being hazardous to human health or to the environment and to use less hazardous substances or techniques where these are sufficient for the task to ensure that hazardous substances are stored, used and disposed of in accordance with the suppliers' instructions to continue to discourage smoking and to improve the working environment for smokers and non smokers alike through proposals to strengthen the no smoking policy. This is achieved by prohibiting smoking at work except outside the building.
	3.2.4	Batteries
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to avoid the use of batteries containing environmentally hazardous materials as specified in European Directives (ie, lead, mercury and cadmium) where there is a better environmental option.

	3.2.5	Solvents
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to review the use of products containing potentially harmful solvents so as to identify those which can be eliminated or replaced by low-solvent, or solvent-free products such as water based paints, varnishes and glues to carry out periodic checks of cleaning and other contractors to ensure that harmful solvents are not unnecessarily being used.
	3.2.6	Bio-degradable Substances
		To ensure the use of fully biodegradable substances where available and when they represent the best environmental option and value for money.
	3.3	Procurement of goods & services
	3.3.1	<p>St. Albans Girls' school proposes to integrate more fully a concern for the environment into its procurement activities. In order to achieve this, we will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that all purchases are made in accordance with this policy statement positively discriminate in favour of recycled products, where possible review packaging of sent goods and the disposal of such packaging support the eco-labelling scheme by buying products bearing such labels in preference to others, where they are available and provide value for money taking into account whole life costs and benefits support the European Commission's mandatory energy labelling scheme by giving preference to products with labels in the highest categories - provided they give value for money <p>ensure that sustainability is included in all tenders and a consideration when reviewing services.</p>
	3.4	Waste management
	3.4.1	<p>Minimise waste by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> taking steps to measure the volumes of controlled and other categories of waste produced using resources more efficiently - see section on Conservation at section 3 above maintaining and improving its recycling schemes for paper, cans, bottles, printer cartridges at the school introducing schemes for recycling plastics, drinks cartons and other materials if feasible and exploring further ways to minimise waste.
4.	MONITORING	
	4.1	Responsibility for updating the policy statement and co-ordinating its implementation rests with school leadership team. All staff will be required to follow the policy and related guidance.
	4.2	The green housekeeping policy will be reviewed by the school leadership team every three years.

APPENDIX

ECO CODE

AIMS

We aim continually to improve the management of our own use of resources by:

- conserving energy, water, wood, paper and other resources
- reducing waste, recycling more and using recycled products and materials;
- providing staff and students with the information to enable them to live with minimum impact on the environment.

CONSERVATION

The objectives to help preserve natural resources are:

(a) Energy

- to minimise energy consumption. In order to achieve this we will:
- install efficient lighting, equipment and controls and, where realistic and practicable, improving the fabric of our building to make it more energy efficient
- establish a system for monitoring and targeting our energy consumption
- continue to research into new methods and techniques for saving energy and to implement them where appropriate.

(b) Water

- to minimise water consumption in school buildings. In order to achieve this we will:
- install and maintain compression taps to all wash hand basins
- promote more considered use of water by staff, cleaners, contractors and tenants.

(c) Paper

- to make more economical and effective use of paper. In order to achieve this we will, for example:
- continue to extend the amount of recycled paper bought
- make use of electronic mail and other technology to disseminate information for large documents
- continue double-sided printing and copying and reuse of unwanted documents as scrap paper and reusing of old envelopes
- monitor paper recycling schemes and making any necessary improvements yearly.

POLLUTION

The objectives to minimise environmental pollution are:

(a) Climate Change

- to ensure that the school makes progress towards lowering carbon dioxide emissions.

(b) Vehicle Emissions

- to encourage, through the school travel plan, the use of public transport to school
- to encourage cycling to school through the provision of improved facilities for cyclists.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Minimise waste by

- maintaining and improving our recycling schemes for paper, cans, bottles, printer cartridges at the school
- introducing schemes for recycling plastics, drinks cartons and other materials if feasible and exploring further ways to minimise waste.

