

BHASVIC

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Last Updated: November 2022

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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Brighton Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College (BHASVIC) recognise its corporate and social responsibility to carry out its activities in a way that is responsive to the climate emergency. In this respect the College will seek to develop an ethos of responsibility for environmental and sustainability in all its staff, governors and students.

In delivering its mission to 'Transform Lives through Learning' the College will seek to promote a sound awareness and understanding of local, national and global environmental and sustainability issues and conduct our activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Scope

This policy covers the key elements to the College's approach to the environment and sustainability. It is therefore of relevance to all College stakeholders, whether internal (students, staff, governors) or external (parents, neighbours, other stakeholders).

Policy Aims

The aim of the policy is to provide a sustainable future by creating and enforcing practical and achievable solutions for an environmentally conscious and economically sustainable college.

The College is committed to:

- be a NetZero organisation by 2030
- Delivering measurable reductions in energy use and investing in energy saving technologies as directed by our [Net Zero action plan](#)
- To become a 'Leading' Institution as defined by our progress on the [FE Climate Action Roadmap](#)
- Embedding Education for Sustainable development into the courses we teach and offering all students and staff the opportunity to gain a Carbon Literacy qualification
- Ensuring a culture of environmental responsibility in all staff and students

Roles and Responsibilities

Principal

- Overall responsibility for Sustainability and Carbon Reduction at the College but the Assistant Principal (Resources) will act as their nominee
- Keep Link Governor apprised of progress in this area
- Ensure there is an annual Sustainability SARAP
- Collaborate with partner organisations (AOC, S7, FE Sussex, B&HCC) to help achieve the goals of this policy
- Convene and Chair meetings of the Sustainability Committee to be responsible for the enactment, encouragement and review of the policy and to promote the policy to staff and students. Members of the committee will include:
 - o Principal (Chair)
 - o Assistant Principal (Director of Resources)
 - o The Estates Manager
 - o Carbon Literacy Coordinator
 - o The Canteen Manager
 - o Student Union Sustainability Officer
 - o Students from the Climate Action Group

Assistant Principal (Director of Resources)

- Ensure relevant legislation and other requirements are met
- Ensure that relevant actions and strategies are implemented to achieve the aims set out in the policy
- Monitor progress against NetZero 2030 Action Plan
- Keep Governing body updated

Managers

- To integrate environmental and sustainability principles into the Colleges operational procedures and educational activities, under the guidance of the Principal.
- Nominated Head of Faculty with responsibility for embedding policy with departments

Estates Manager

- To improve the way the College manages its environment e.g. recycling, energy and waste management.
- To implement strategies to reduce environmental impact and better management of resources
- Identify training requirements for Premises Team to ensure they are aware of their legislative responsibilities ensuring compliance and to deliver continuous environmental improvements
- Ensure the College is managing its waste according to best practice and recycling/reduction targets.

Estates Team

- Record and monitor college's energy and water usage.
- Oversee the management of the litter and the general environment.
- To ensure that all cleaning products used are environmentally friendly
- Promote and maintain a litter free environment in the College buildings, grounds and in the immediate surrounding areas

Carbon Literacy Coordinator

- To provide opportunities for all staff and students to complete a stand-alone Carbon Literacy qualification
- To provide INSET to enable teachers to embed Carbon Literacy into all courses
- To work with employers to provide skills masterclasses in Green industry and technology
- To work with the FE Sussex Carbon Literacy Manager on Collaborative projects and goals
- To oversee the student Climate Action Group and organise and/or support environmental awareness-raising events
- To inform staff and students about local and global environmental issues (and to involve them where practical in the College's environmental initiatives.
- To encourage student and staff suggestions on ways to improve practices which impact the Environment.
- To work with the local community and partner organisations to develop and pursue environmental initiatives and educational programmes.

All Staff and Students

- To comply with the requirements of the policy
- To minimise harmful environmental impact and help to improve the way the College manages its environment.

Monitoring and review of the policy

The policy will be reviewed every three years or more frequently if necessary. An annual Self-assessment report and action plan (SARAP) will be written and shared with the lead Governor for Sustainability and reported on at Resources committee when relevant.

Related Documents

Net Zero Action Plan
FE Climate Roadmap
Complaints Procedure
Display Energy Certificates
Dignity at Work Policy
Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Policy
Green Procurement Policy
Health and Safety Policy
Instrument and articles of government
Risk management Policy
Staff Code of Conduct
Travel Plan
Whistle Blowing Policy

Appendix: Ongoing Sustainability Procedures at BHASVIC

Energy Management

- Metering and monitoring systems to identify usage, cost and where efficiencies can be made
- Use lighting and heating controls and fit sensors where appropriate to switch heating, lighting and water on and off when needed
- Review heating and cooling to ensure that it is efficient and effective
- Zone controls on heating system so areas not in use can be switched off
- Fit thermostatic valves to all radiators.
- Automated standby of electrical items (e.g. PCs) when not in use

Water Management

- Use of water saving devices for showers, toilets and taps
- Monitor water use to quickly identify any leaks
- Repair dripping taps immediately they are discovered
- Investigate rain water harvesting and the use of grey water in new builds
- Install the most energy efficient appliances available where budgets allow

Waste Management

- Cut landfill waste by increasing reuse and the use of recycling schemes for furniture, IT equipment and electrical appliances
- Recycle paper, plastics, cans, wood and kitchen waste
- Encourage students and staff to make more use of reusable materials where possible in the curriculum e.g. art
- Reduce amount of paper and printer consumables used by using electronic systems and only printing what is necessary.

Travel and Transport (as shown in the Green Travel Plan)

- Promote and encourage the use of public transport
- Continue to promote the bike purchase scheme to provide discounted bicycles for staff and aim to minimize the use of unsustainable transport
- Provide sufficient and secure cycle storage facilities
- Provide information on cycle and pedestrian routes to college
- Encourage the use of car sharing to reduce travelling costs, help the environment and reduce parking spaces
- Install electric car charging points

Purchasing and Procurement

- To encourage sustainable procurement
- Use sustainable products where possible
- Use local suppliers and producers when possible
- Purchase efficient and environmentally sound appliances and consider replacing old systems with environmentally friendlier alternatives

Carbon Management

- Measure Carbon Footprint every two years with reductions in line with action plan for NetZero by 2030
- Use of low carbon technologies in buildings and equipment
- Improve the Display Energy Certificate (DEC) grade by managing the energy use in the college
- Utilise natural light and ventilation where possible to avoid air conditioning units and artificial light
- Use energy saving LED lights across the estate
- Encourage staff and students to reduce Carbon Footprints (see Education below)

Education – Carbon Literacy/Education for Sustainable Development

- The Carbon Literacy Coordinator will undertake duties as detailed in the role job description
- To provide opportunities for staff and students to become carbon literate
- To provide opportunities for staff training and development
- To encourage student and staff suggestions on ways to improve practices which impact on the environment
- To undertake a regular review of environmental management procedures and activities to ensure suitability, adequacy and effectiveness
- Integrate environmental and sustainability principles into the Colleges operational procedures and educational activities.

Construction

- To undertake major capital refurbishments to Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) guidelines where financially possible. The BREEAM process is at the heart of sustainable construction and its continued use will achieve the targets set out in this strategy, this will include its integration into design and costing.