

Sustainability Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1** The Trust takes its social responsibility to our community seriously and seeks to promote values to reflect this in the widest sense. The issues around climate change affect the whole curriculum. Students in all Trust Academies need to understand the issues from educational and social perspectives in the interests of everyone's future.

2 Aims, objectives and responsibilities

- 2.1** Our overall aim is to pursue a coherent, consistent, and achievable policy on sustainability issues throughout the Trust and its academies. In doing so, we aim to educate students, staff, parents, and carers about the importance of good sustainability practices.

- 2.2** It is the responsibility of the CEO, in conjunction with Trustees, Principals/Headteachers and local governors to ensure that all reasonably practicable measures are taken to promote and delivery sustainability across the Trust and its academies.

The CEO will ensure the Trust has an appropriate sustainability strategy and plan. This will be reviewed annually by the Trust board.

- 2.3** The HoM Estates Co-ordinator oversees sustainability across the Trust.
- They work with relevant academy staff, e. g. local Premises/Estates Managers and Principals/Headteachers to ensure effective focus on, planning for and delivery of sustainability within the academies (see Point 2.4).
 - Visit each academy of the Trust and meet regularly with premises/estates managers at each to discuss issues and progress with ongoing tasks and challenges;
 - organise surveys/audits of Trust academies and report findings to the Executive Group;
 - chair the group of staff responsible for sustainability in the academies of the Trust;
 - work with the CFO to ensure the area is adequately funded and provided for to ensure;
 - liaise with the relevant staff at the Trust's academies to ensure action planning, policies and procedures are effective.

- 2.4** The Trust and each of its Academies will produce an Action Plan which will:

1. Clearly define sustainable development objectives and targets.
2. Engage students and staff in a wide understanding of the impact of our actions on the environment locally, nationally, and internationally.
3. Promote high standards of care for the academy, the local and wider community.
4. Encourage behavioural changes, increase participation and communication across all users.
5. Minimise the adverse impacts of our Trust on the environment.
6. Develop a responsible use of energy throughout the Trust and its academies, improving energy efficiency and giving preference to renewable energy when possible.
7. Use environmentally friendly products and practices, wherever possible, and avoid the use of environmentally damaging products.
8. Promote sustainable transport to staff and students for their journeys to and from Trust academies.

The HoM Estates Co-ordinator will review the action plans produced by academies of the Trust annually to ensure that effective measures are being undertaken to promote and deliver sustainability in the academy.

3 Implementation

3.1 Communication

- Develop the capacities of all staff to promote the understanding of the principles of sustainability.
- Develop an ethos of sustainability through, for example, the setting up of student focused environmental groups.
- Encourage students to take their ideas home and share them with their family and friends.

3.2 Transport

Develop a Trust plan to promote sustainable travel e.g., use of public transport, walking, cycling, car sharing, and availability of charging points.

3.3 Recycling

- Maintain respect for natural resources by teaching and encouraging the most efficient use of materials and by using renewable, recycled, and recyclable products wherever possible.

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- Encourage staff and students to recycle as much waste as possible, in the academy and at home. Facilitate recycling across the Trust wherever possible.
- Review approach to rubbish disposal and aim to maintain zero waste to landfill wherever practicable.

3.4 Procurement

- Ensure that the Trust and its academies pursue a policy of best practice, local purchasing, and the use of environmentally friendly products, where possible.

3.5 Premises

- Ensure that Trust grounds are maintained to a high standard and are as litter free as possible.
- Promote more environmentally friendly usage of the grounds.
- Monitor gas, water and electricity and seek to reduce usage.
- Use, wherever possible, renewable energy.
- Use of site surveys and reports to deliver heat decarbonisation plan (HDP) for each academy of the Trust.

3.6 Strategy

- (i) Consider sustainability issues throughout the planning, design, and construction of all capital and other projects.
- (ii) Consider relevant ISO standards as a basis for sustainable development within the Trust.
- (iii) Engage specialist providers to aid the Trust in responding to the need to promote and deliver sustainability. The Trust will utilise their reports and surveys to prioritise short-, medium- and long-term plans for improving sustainability.
- (iv) Develop a global dimension within the curriculum and through enrichment activities of its academies.

4 **Monitoring & Review**

Monitor and review progress towards sustainability objectives through routine monitoring by the Executive Group. The policy will be reviewed annually, and significant change presented to the Trust Board for approval.

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5 Equality Impact

The Trust's responsibilities towards promoting equality, diversity and inclusion have been considered when drafting this policy.

Date of review	Date agreed	LGBs	MAT Board	Review date	Comments
September 2023	21/09/2023	October 2023	12/10/23	September 2024	