



Brentwood School

Environmental Sustainability Statement

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

Introduction

Brentwood School recognises the global challenges associated with delivering climate change and environmental sustainability. This statement sets out the School's commitment to modernising its infrastructure and business operations so that the School is both flourishing and is as environmentally sustainable as possible. The School seeks to lead by example and to encourage new generations of students and staff to be agents of positive social and environmental change.

Statement

Brentwood School identifies that its activities have both a direct and indirect impact on the environment. The School commits to reducing its environmental impact as an integral part of its business strategy and operating methods. To support our commitment, we will:

- **Brentwood School Staff** - Communicate the importance of environmental sustainability among our staff and ensure understanding of the importance of implementation of environmental measures.
- **Brentwood School Community** - Raise awareness of key environmental issues among our pupils and by doing so encourage them to take an active role in environmental projects and reducing our environmental impact. Additionally, we will develop relationships with parents and external organisations to promote environmentally friendly behaviour both within and outside of school.
- **Energy and Emissions** - Take action to reduce our energy use and direct and indirect emissions to the maximum extent possible.
- **Waste** - Reduce our consumption of materials and other resources, reuse what we can and recycle those materials that are beyond their useful life.
- **Supply Chain** - Minimise the procurement and use of non-renewable and environmentally unfriendly resources.
- **Legal** - Regularly monitor the Statement to ensure that we conduct our activities in full knowledge of, and in compliance with, all environmental laws and relevant standards and practices.

Process

In delivering on this statement, Brentwood School is committed to a program of continual improvement and will set targets and measure progress against them. We will communicate internally and externally the Statement and our environmental performance on a regular basis.

Compliance

Our environmental performance and adherence with this Statement is our responsibility collectively as a school and as individuals. All members of the Brentwood School Community have a responsibility for adherence to the principles of the Statement.

Governance

This statement has been approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and will be regularly reviewed.

Implementation

Inside the school buildings we will:

Paper

- Reduce the use of paper throughout the school through greater use of technology.
- Seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products.
- Reuse and recycle paper where possible.

Litter and waste

- Work with students and staff to reduce waste and litter.

Energy

- Switch off lighting and electrical equipment when not in use.
- Where possible, install LED and/or movement sensitive lights.
- Monitor energy consumption in buildings via smart meters.
- Close windows at the end of the day and when rooms are not in use to avoid heat loss.
- Modify heating control systems to deliver energy savings.
- Identify and implement effective energy-saving measures where possible and reasonably practicable e.g. installation of modern boilers, insulation, use of alternative sources of energy such as solar power and greater use of air and ground source heat pumps.
- Ensure all new build and refurbishment projects conform to the highest environmental standards where these are consistent with good financial management.

Water

- Establish and raise awareness of simple actions that can cut down on water use.
- Build awareness of the link between water use and financial cost.
- Monitor water usage and identify and implement effective additional measures to reduce water use or to harness rain water.

Recycling

- Promote greater levels of recycling throughout school.
- Reduce the consumption of single use plastics.
- Encourage pupils to reduce the consumption of plastic wrapped snacks in preference for biodegradable/ compostable snack packaging.

Books, equipment and uniform

- Reduce use of paper textbooks and other books wherever possible.
- Offer outdated or unwanted equipment and clothing to other schools, organisations and charities.
- Enable the selling of nearly new uniform.

Food supplies

- Require our school catering company to use local suppliers wherever possible.
- Reduce consumption of meat and encourage other more environmentally friendly menus.
- Actively reduce food waste through menu planning, production efficiencies and using leftover food wherever possible.

Purchasing

- Reduce the carbon footprint of suppliers by procuring goods and services from local suppliers wherever possible.

Outside of the school buildings and in the wider community we will:

Transport

- Raise awareness of the impact of transport on the environment and people's health.
- Encourage staff, and students, to reduce single occupancy car use and car share where possible subject to school rules.
- Encourage pupils and staff to commute to school using environmentally-friendly methods (walking, cycling, public transport and school buses) and provide more cycle racks.
- Encourage greater use of electric vehicles by staff and parents through regular communication and by installing an appropriate number of electric charging points.
- Utilise electric vehicles where possible onsite. Other school vehicles should be as 'green' as possible and maintained rigorously to ensure efficiency.
- Maintain a travel plan which includes realistic and achievable goals and addresses traffic generation and parking issues.
- Consider carbon offsetting options to reduce the impact of international trips that our students take as part of their education.

Maintenance and cleaning

- Use cleaning materials that are as environmentally friendly as possible.
- Use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.

- Use environmentally friendly materials as much as possible in maintenance and refurbishment projects.

Litter

- Encourage all members of the school community to be involved in helping to prevent and clear left litter from the school grounds.
- Encourage pupils to regard litter clearing as a positive environmental action, which will also help foster a sense of personal pride and responsibility.

School grounds

- Use the school grounds as a source of teaching and learning opportunity for students including the study of flora and fauna and their habitat.
- Improve use of the school grounds for recreational purposes by students as well as provision to undertake exercise.
- Develop areas of biodiversity and a strategy to encourage wildlife within the school grounds.
- Reduce our use of chemicals (fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides).