

Greenshaw Learning Trust

Environment and Sustainability Policy

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October 2023

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1.1 Application

This Greenshaw Learning Trust Policy applies to Greenshaw Learning Trust as a whole and to all the schools and service units in the Trust.

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body and Headteacher of each school, and the Board of Trustees and CEO for Trust Shared Services, to ensure that their school/service and its staff adhere to this GLT Environmental and Sustainability Policy. In implementing the policy and associated procedures the Governing Body, Headteacher and Trust staff must take account of any advice given to them by the GLT Director of Estates, the GLT CEO and/or Board of Trustees.

This Policy is subject to the Scheme of Delegation approved for Greenshaw Learning Trust. If there is any ambiguity or conflict then the Scheme of Delegation and any specific Scheme or alteration or restriction to the Scheme approved by the Board of Trustees, takes precedence.

If there is any question or doubt about the interpretation or implementation of this Policy, the GLT Director of Estates should be consulted.

1.2 Approval and review

- This Policy is the responsibility of the GLT Director of Estates
- This Policy was agreed by the Board of Trustees: 20 October 2023
- This Policy is due for review by the Board of Trustees: October 2026
- This Policy will be kept under review by the GLT Director of Estates.

1.3 Terminology

- The Trust means the Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT).
- School means a school within the Greenshaw Learning Trust.
- Headteacher means the headteacher or principal of the school.
- CEO means the chief executive officer of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.
- Trust Shared Service means staff employed by the Trust to provide central or Trust-wide services, as distinct from staff employed to work in a specific school or schools
- Governors and Trustees includes governors, Trustees, non-governor members of Trust Committees and members of the Trust Panel.
- Governing body means the committee of the Board of Trustees to which Trustees have delegated appropriate powers and functions relating to the governance of the school.
- 'We' means the Greenshaw Learning Trust including all schools within the Trust and the Trust Shared Service.

2. Policy Statement

2.1 The Greenshaw Learning Trust is committed to promoting environmental sustainability and believes in encouraging a culture of responsible ownership of our natural resources amongst our staff, children and wider communities. We recognise the importance of environmental protection and sustainability within our schools and operations. This policy outlines our commitment to minimising environmental impact and promoting sustainability across all our activities. This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Greenshaw Learning Trust is committed to continuously improving our environmental and sustainability practices.

2.2 The schools in the Greenshaw Learning Trust, and the Trust Shared Service will take account of this Policy Statement and the Policy commitments below in managing their schools and services, reviewing their policies and procedures and in delivering the curriculum.

3. Policy Commitments

3.1 Environmental Responsibility:

We will comply with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and standards, striving to go beyond compliance when feasible. Our educational programs will include a focus on environmental awareness and responsibility.

3.2 Resource Conservation:

We will actively manage our resource consumption, including energy, water, and materials, to minimise waste and reduce our carbon footprint. We will continually seek opportunities to increase energy efficiency and minimise resource usage.

3.3 Waste Reduction:

We will implement waste reduction measures, including recycling and waste diversion programs, to minimise the environmental impact of our operations. We will strive to reduce single-use plastics and encourage responsible waste disposal practices.

3.4 Biodiversity and Natural Habitats:

We will protect and preserve local biodiversity and natural habitats. This includes maintaining our school's green spaces and supporting initiatives promoting biodiversity and wildlife conservation.

3.5 Sustainable Transportation:

We will encourage sustainable transportation options among our staff and students, such as walking, cycling, carpooling, and public transportation. We will also provide bicycle racks and promote using electric or low-emission vehicles.

3.6 Green Procurement:

We will prioritise purchasing environmentally friendly products and services whenever possible, considering their environmental impact throughout their lifecycle.

3.7 Energy Efficiency:

We will strive to improve the energy efficiency of our buildings and facilities through regular maintenance, upgrades, and energy-efficient technologies.

3.8 Environmental Education:

We will integrate environmental and sustainability principles into our curriculum and provide opportunities for students and staff to learn about and engage in sustainable practices.

3.9 Community Engagement:

We will engage with our local communities, including residents and businesses, to promote sustainability initiatives and contribute to the community's well-being.

3.10 Monitoring and Reporting:

We will monitor and report our progress in implementing this policy through regular assessments of its implementation and reports to the Board, its Committees and Governing Bodies.