



# Sustainability Policy

Approved by TCES Operational Board on behalf of

Thomas Keaney, CEO and Schools' Proprietor

**Date of next formal review, January 2025**

This policy applies to TCES National Online School

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## **Introduction**

Sustainable living is a way of thinking about how we organise our lives, work and education system so that we don't destroy our most precious resource – our planet. It is about helping people to find solutions that improve their quality of life without storing up problems for the future or impacting unfairly on other people's lives. It is about reshaping the way we think about the future.

### **Aims:**

- To prepare pupils for a lifetime of sustainable living, through teaching, and example in day-to-day practices.
- To encourage care for oneself - our health and well-being.
- To encourage care for each other - across cultures, distances and generations.
- To encourage care for the environment – local and global.
- To be courageous advocates and promote sustainability to the wider community

### **The National Online School Approach:**

We believe that by fostering positive attitudes about sustainable issues and developing awareness and critical thinking skills in our pupils and the wider community, future generations will be better equipped to manage the challenges that lie ahead for our planet.

### **Caring for oneself:**

We put a high value on the well-being of our pupils and their school and home environment. We strive to create an ethos of good behaviour where children treat one another and the school staff with respect because they know that this is the right way to behave. It also helps to develop a clear understanding of how our actions affect others.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable within our school and we aim to create an environment that prevents bullying.

Inclusion is integral to our approach to teaching and learning to ensure all pupils develop high self-esteem and achieve good standards.

Health and well-being are deemed to be high priority.

Pupil safe space week - when the school focusses on areas which will help to keep us all safe in different areas of our lives (such as road safety, sun safety, stranger danger etc).

Healthy Eating is promoted throughout the school, and we try to encourage pupils to eat a balanced meal and to try new foods.

### **Caring for each other:**

Pupils spend time through curriculum work and assemblies developing a sound understanding of interpersonal relationships. We also seek to develop an understanding of global issues and where

possible include thought provoking questions/issues which encourage children to think about how they are part of the wider world and the part they can play in it, helping them to understand their role in protecting and supporting those less fortunate than ourselves.

### **Aims and Objectives:**

It is important for the school community to have an awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment in which they live, work and relax. In order to do this, we need to take responsibility for our own actions, and we need to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live. We encourage both staff and pupils to think about their environment and how their actions impact upon the national and global picture. To this end we encourage and reinforce environmental education in all aspects of everyday life and the wider community. The ways in which we will strive towards this goal is to reduce the amount of materials we use and waste we produce, recycle and re-use materials wherever possible, restore what is deemed to have been destroyed and respect our neighbours and our environment.

### **Reduce Energy:**

- We will switch off lights when they are not in use.
- We will keep outside doors shut in cold weather.
- We will make sure we turn off taps when they are no longer needed.

### **Equal Opportunities and Additional Educational Needs Statement:**

By using learning strategies that enable pupils to make use of all their senses, we can support all learning styles. It is easier to remember what you have heard, seen, touched, tasted and smelled. All children will have access to effective learning opportunities surrounding our environment irrespective of issues of race, gender, social and economic circumstances or ability. All teachers will differentiate their teaching to meet the individual needs of the child.

### **Healthy living:**

- We will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment.
- We will discourage environmental indifference and promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment.
- We will encourage staff and pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.

The DfE aims for all schools to have a **climate action plan** in place by 2025, which should cover the 4 following areas:

- Decarbonisation – taking actions to reduce carbon emissions, e.g. becoming more energy efficient.
- Adaptation and resilience – e.g. taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating.
- Biodiversity – e.g. by engaging with the [National Education Nature Park and Climate Action Awards](#)
- Climate education and green careers – making sure the education you provide gives knowledgeable and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that your teaching staff and lecturers feel supported to offer this

The National Online Schools will encourage the following to support our climate, we want our pupils to be proud of their home environment and the achievements that they can make to support the climate.

- Save energy at home. ...
- Change your home's source of energy. ...
- Walk, bike or take public transport. ...
- Switch to an electric vehicle. ...
- Consider your travel. ...
- Reduce, reuse, repair and recycle. ...
- Eat more vegetables. ... • Throw away less food.

Persons responsible:

Head Teacher

Deputy Head