

Greenshaw Learning Trust

Environment and Sustainability Policy

Policy Title	GLT Environment and Sustainability Policy	
Category	Trust Policy	
Responsible Officer	GLT Director of Estates	
Approved on	20 October 2023	
Minor technical or operational updates made		
Review Cycle and next approval date	Three years October 2026	
Monitoring arrangements	This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if required by statutory guidance updates. The implementation of this policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher.	

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Terminology

- The Trust means the Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT).
- School means a school or academy within the Greenshaw Learning Trust.
- Headteacher means the headteacher, executive headteacher or principal of the school/academy.
- CEO means the chief executive officer of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.
- Trust Shared Service means the services, functions and staff of the Trust that are not contained within a school budget and/or are not the responsibility of a school Headteacher. With respect to the Trust Shared Service, references in this Policy to the responsibilities of the Headteacher should be read as the GLT CEO.
- Responsible Officer means the member of the Director Team to which responsibility for the management of the policy, procedure or statement has been delegated by the Board of Trustees
- Policy or Policies should be read as including any procedures, reports, templates, models, statements and schedules etc. as specified in the GLT Policy Schedule. Categories of Policy are defined in 'Scope and Applicability'

Scope & Applicability

- It is the responsibility of the Headteacher of each school, and the GLT CEO for the Trust Shared Service, to ensure that their school/service and its staff follow this Policy and all Policies and Procedures across the Trust.
- If there is any question or doubt about the interpretation or implementation of this Policy, the 'Responsible Officer' or the GLT CEO should be consulted.
- Unless otherwise stated, all Policies apply to all schools within the Trust, all Trust employees (including temporary and agency staff), all pupils, all trustees and committee members (including members of community committees), all volunteers, and all visitors and contractors
- This is a Trust Policy. The GLT Board of Trustees has approved a set of Trust-wide policies and procedures. A Trust-wide policy/procedure is a single policy/procedure that must be followed by all schools and services in the Trust.

Introduction and Policy Statement

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.

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.

Roles and Responsibilities

- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Green Procurement:**
We will prioritise purchasing environmentally friendly products and services whenever possible, considering their environmental impact throughout their lifecycle.
- **Energy Efficiency:**
We will strive to improve the energy efficiency of our buildings and facilities through regular maintenance, upgrades, and energy-efficient technologies.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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