



## HAZELDENE LOWER SCHOOL

### SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

#### Rationale

Sustainable development is essential to ensure quality of life without damaging the planet for the future. This requires a balance between economic prosperity, social equity and care for the environment.

Hazeldene Lower School is driven by our commitment to care:

- For oneself (our health and well-being)
- For each other (across cultures, distances and generation)
- For the environment (both locally and globally)

We are acutely aware of our responsibility to promote and practice sustainable development not only to minimise our own impact on the planet but also to foster an awareness and commitment within our school community. We are proud to have achieved the Eco-schools Silver Award which represents our commitment and progress towards becoming a more sustainable school.

#### Our Objectives:

- To encourage our school community to care for themselves (their health and wellbeing), for each other and for the environment.
- To challenge our school community to use their individual talents so that they can contribute to the economic prosperity of the local community the country and the global environment.
- To promote and practise the principles of social equality both in school and through our links with local, national and global communities.
- To empower our school community to lead sustainable lives through educating them in sustainable behaviours.

- To share responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practising policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment.
- To support action to create healthy environments free from pollution and contamination.

Issues of Global Sustainability are addressed across all areas of school life and the curriculum with reference to the 'Eight Doorways' for Sustainable Schools (DCFS).

### 1. Inclusion and Participation

As part of our commitment to the 'Every Child Matters' Agenda, we place a high importance on ensuring that all of our pupils are encouraged to participate in all aspects of school life. Staff practices adhere to a wide range of policies which ensure all children have the opportunity to be fully included in all aspects of learning. Care is taken to ensure all children have equal access to extra curriculum clubs and the wider opportunities outside the school day.

### 2. Food and Drink

In line with our Health School practices and wherever possible, food and drink offered to children, staff and visitors are nutritionally healthy and produced locally. Parents are encouraged to support this policy when providing food for their children to consume at school. The school supports learning about healthy foods and sustainable food choices through a wide range of curriculum links. Vegetable and fruit waste is composted whenever possible both by children and staff.

### 3. Energy and Water

Hazeldene Lower School is conscious of the need to conserve energy and water and is working towards the more efficient use of these resources. Solar panels have recently been installed and are working to generate sustainable electricity for the school. Surplus energy is used to supply other users and enable the school to generate an additional income. Monitoring panels are soon to be installed which will enable pupils to take a more active role in tracking the electricity generated.

Overall consumption of electricity and water is monitored regularly by the Bursar and site agent. The Eco-team's annual review and related assemblies also help to ensure the profile of energy conservation remains high for all pupils in addition to the area being covered by curriculum links and specific events / competitions.

#### 4. Travel and Traffic

The school's Travel Plan promotes walking and cycling to school and the school holds regular walk to school days. Safe storage is provided for cycles and Bikability training has been offered to older pupils. Members of the senior leadership team regularly meet and greet parents and children on the school gates in the mornings and seize this opportunity to remind parents / carers and to park safely and with consideration for our neighbours. The school supports learning about sustainable travel and the effect of traffic through a wide range of curriculum links.

#### 5. Purchasing and Waste

The Bursar is responsible for whole school decisions based around purchasing. The S3 review document is completed annually to ensure that all opportunities for sustainable purchasing are identified. All classrooms have a recycling bin and electrical equipment and lights are switched off when not in use. The wider school community is regularly encouraged to participate in a range of recycling schemes which also generate funds for the school.

#### 6. Buildings and Grounds

Hazeldene has extensive school grounds which are used in a variety of ways to enhance children's learning and well being. The environmental area, school field and outside classroom are regularly used for Forest School activities and for teaching of a range of curriculum areas across all year groups. Steps are taken to ensure the school buildings and grounds are used as much as possible by hosting training / staff meetings for other schools, outside evening lets and school related fundraising events. Pupils take responsibility for keeping our environment litter free.

## 7. Local Wellbeing

The school works hard to maintain good relationships with our neighbours and enhance the local environment. Whenever possible goods and services are purchased locally and the school is available for use by external community groups. Members of the local community are invited to attend a range of events such as Summer / Christmas fairs and carol concerts and events such as Harvest Festivals raise funds and awareness of local issues.

## 8. Global Dimension

As a school community, we participate in many activities linking us to the wider world and supporting our status as an International School. We hold awareness assemblies and days for charities based in the UK and overseas. Cross curriculum links and visits strive to enhance children's understanding of different cultures, religions and languages so ensuring a theme of global citizenship is present throughout.

### Linking Policies

Accessibility

Attendance

Antibullying

Behaviour

Child Protection

Community Cohesion

PSHE

Learning and Teaching

Race Equality

SEN

### Monitoring and Reviewing

Annual reviews are undertaken by the Bursar and the Headteacher using the S3 Sustainability audit. The Eco team also undertakes an environmental review which dictates its priorities for the coming year. The outcomes of these reviews are shared with pupils and staff through staff meetings / assemblies.

