



## Environmental Sustainability Policy

At Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford the persons with responsibility for this Policy are:

<b>Author</b>	Facilities Manager
<b>SLT</b>	Headteacher



# Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford

## A Selective Academy



### 1. AIMS

This policy aims to set out the school's approach to the environmental sustainability of the school.

#### 1.1 STATEMENT OF INTENT

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar Alford is committed to education our pupils about the environmental concerns and the important of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that pupils have the necessary skills and knowledge to understand environmental concerns, so that they can apply this to their lives and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle.

### 2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- [Climate Change Act 2008](#)
- [The Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015](#)
- [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#)
- [Control of Pollution Act 1974](#)
- DfE (2012) '[Top tips for sustainability in schools](#)'
- DfE Sustainability and climate change: '[a strategy for the education and children's services systems](#)'
- National Governance Association (NGA) 2022 '[Environmental Sustainability; A Whole School Approach](#)'

### 3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 3.1 THE GOVERNING BOARD

The Board is responsible for:

- Reviewing environmental and sustainability policy.
- Consider environmental impacts where any new buildings or refurbishments are being planned.
- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy use (FAR Committee).
- Identifying, with the Facilities Officer and site team, energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this, such as installation of LED lighting and motion sensor lights.
- Ensuring where possible that equipment purchased is made from sustainable sources, for example use of biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic; students are encouraged to use refillable water bottles.



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### 3.2 THE HEADTEACHER

The headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of the policy.
- Ensuring that teaching staff have the necessary knowledge to teach pupils about environmental concerns.
- Ensuring that staff and students understand the importance of energy conservation, for example, turning off the lights when not in use.
- Communicating with disposal companies regarding the disposal of recyclable and non-recyclable waste, so that that school can implement a waste disposal procedure for all staff and students to follow.
- Ensuring that catering staff understand the importance of recycling and disposing of waste sustainably.
- Ensuring the site team understand their responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the school grounds.

### 3.3 THE SCHOOL

The school is responsible for:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, governors, pupils, parents and the community and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy.
- Sharing good practice with pupils, parents and the community, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined in this policy.
- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities.
- Sharing the responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practicing policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment.

### 3.4 TEACHING STAFF

- Promoting the need for environmental sustainability in their lessons.
- Ensuring their classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that computers and lights are turned off when not in use.
- Ensuring that outside lights are switched off when they are not needed.
- We aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skill and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability by embedding topics in many areas of our curriculum. Individual curriculums will outline how the topics are embedded.

Approved by: Headteacher

Date Approved: September 2024

Last reviewed: September 2024

Next date due to be reviewed: September 2028



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Environmental Champions will be identified and included in the Student Leadership Team with an option to elect students from within the school.

### 3.5 STUDENTS

Students will be asked to:

- Apply what they have learnt in school in their home and aim to be as sustainable as possible outside of school.
- Walk or cycle to school if possible.
- Use energy sustainably, for example, not leave taps running.
- Be responsible for keeping classrooms, school and grounds tidy and clean.
- Eat healthy, natural fruit and vegetable snacks and not use plastic packaging wherever possible.
- Use the right bins to allow recycling.

### 3.6 PARENTS

Parents will be asked to:

- Promote an eco friendly lifestyle at home.
- Recycle at home and ensure their children understand how to recycle.
- Support the learning that the school implements in regard to the environment.





### WASTE AND RECYCLING

- We aim to reduce the amount of waste we produce by:
  - Writing and printing on both sides of paper wherever possible.
  - Use emails as much as possible to reduce in paper waste.
  - Using emails, the school's website, weekly letter, intranet and letters facility on intranet to communicate with parents to reduce paper waste.
  - Composting food waste, both in the kitchen and food brought into school by pupils.
  - Only print documents where absolutely necessary.
  - Ensuring selective waste collection.
  - Making sure all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via re-use or recycling schemes.
  - Where possible laminating documents that will be used frequently, protecting them from damage and allowing reuse.
- Pupils will be encouraged to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles.
- Recycling bins will be made available for any disposable plastics bottles brought into school to be disposed of.
- There will be clearly marked bins in school for recycling and general waste.
- We will display posters explaining the important of environmental considerations, for example, what sort of waste can be recycled and how litter can be detrimental to the environment.
- Any paper containing personal or sensitive data will not be re-used and will be disposed of in accordance with the school's GDPR policies.
- Pupils will be encouraged to partake in litter picking in the school grounds on a weekly basis as well and in their local communities.
- The school understands that, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, littering is a criminal offence. It also understands that fines may be incurred where individuals deliberately litter the premises.
- Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly. Specifically, individuals are responsible for:
  - Putting litter in a bin
  - Using appropriate recycling bins
  - Using resources thoughtfully
  - Reusing resources where possible
  - Assisting the site caretakers in the cleanliness of the premises.
- The Site Caretakers take overall responsibility for the overall cleanliness of the school premises.



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- The Site Caretakers arrange and coordinate the waste disposal from the premises and ensures all items are disposed of correctly.
- The school appoints an eco-committee consisting of staff members and students, who are responsible for:
  - Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school
  - Monitoring the school's anti-littering procedures
  - Listening and responding to queries from students, staff and governors
  - Mitigating risks of littering by:
    - Establishing designated eating areas – students are restricted to eating food in the school canteen only
  - Raising awareness through dedicated assemblies, tutorials, staff training dates and additional resources such as posters and leaflets
  - Any individual known to have littered the site will be required to dispose of litter correctly.

### TRANSPORT

- Pupils and staff will be encouraged to walk to school, where possible. The school acknowledges the rurality of the area our students come from.
- The benefits of daily exercise, such as walking to school where possible, will be promoted throughout the school.
- We will encourage teachers and other members of staff to car share whenever possible for example, when travelling to external training days.
- We will have safe and suitable storage for bicycles in school.
- We recognised that there are risks involved when individuals chose to walk or bicycle to school therefore we will organise student safety lessons in our tutorial programme and through Stay Safe Days in Y8 and Y9.

### SCHOOL GROUNDS

- The governing body, FAR Committee and Facilities Manager will monitor the consumption of energy withing the school, recognising where the school is wasting energy and implementing measures to reduce energy consumption e.g. introduction of LED lighting.
- Energy saving lightbulbs will be used throughout the school and where possible LED lighting will be used.
- When new buildings or refurbishments are being planned, we will always consider environmental impacts and if required specialist advice will be sought.



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### HEALTHY LIVING

- We will promote the ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught that their actions have a direct impact on the environment.
- We will encourage environmental indifference and promote the understanding the impact that each individual can have on the environment.
- We will encourage staff and students to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle.
- PE shall be part of the curriculum and additional sporting clubs will be made available.

### ENERGY

- We will reduce our energy usage by:
  - Switching off lights when not in use.
  - Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather and installing draft excluders where appropriate to ensure warm air is retained.
  - Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example computers, projectors and interactive white boards, when they are not in use.
  - Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly.
  - Conserving water by installing systems that reduce waste such as cistern dams and flow restrictors.
  - Insulating heating pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of freezing in the winter.
  - Auditing the amount of energy used in each term.
  - Where possible and finances allow, updating the school's heating system to a modern, more efficient system, including a smart meter, to reduce emissions.
  - Display information around the school to ensure students and staff understand the importance of switching off electrical items when not in use.
  - Monitoring the environmental sustainability of suppliers and contractors and adjusting procurement arrangements as required.
  - Making all members of the school community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs.
  - Appoint an energy champion to ensure these measures are carried out e.g. site caretakers or Facilities Manager.
- We will display our Display Energy Certificate in a prominent part of the school.

### REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS

- We are committed to reducing our overall carbon emissions. Emissions will be reduced by:
  - Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around the school.
  - Promoting the benefits of recycling.



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### SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS

- We will devote time to ensuring product procurement is done in the most sustainable way.
- Our purchasing team will ensure that produce bought is cost efficient and sourced from within the UK or locally where possible.
- We will contain contracts with suppliers that stipulate their terms of purchase, paying particular regard to pricing, quality and their returns policy.

