Ormiston Academies Trust

(Academy Name)  
Environment policy

Policy version control

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| Author  In consultation with | R. McCarthy & L. Sharpless  In consultation with Lois Gordon and OAT Estates Team |
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| Review | Policies will be reviewed in line with OAT's internal policy schedule and/or updated when new legislation comes into force |
| Description of changes | New policy |

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1. Environment Statement of Intent
   1. OAT Statement of Intent provides an overview of the Trust’s commitments to reducing its carbon footprint and the methods in which this will be achieved.
   2. This statement can be used for promotional purposes both externally and internally.
   3. Ormiston Academy Trust (OAT) as a Multi Academy Trust is committed to embracing sustainability through its educational activities and implementing specific measures to meet environmental legislation, reduce carbon footprint to ultimately protect our natural resources.
   4. As a Trust with a mission to make the biggest difference, inside and outside the classroom we are committed to three core purposes (teach, develop and change) and in order to deliver this mission we support our work through efficiencies and investment.
   5. We aim to be the most eco-friendly trust in the UK (and be a leading example for other large national multi academy trusts) and align with the DfE vision for climate change and sustainability
   6. We will as a Trust:

* Promote sustainability, provide support and resource to encourage students and staff to get involved in environmental initiatives.
* Provide both formal curriculum-based environmental education and additional training and information for both students, staff, and wider stakeholders to embrace a sustainable choice.
* Share best practice with our local and global communities and encourage our parents, governors, and neighbours to get involved with eco initiatives.
* Measure and monitor our carbon footprint to understand OAT’s direct and indirect impact on the environment, including:
* Energy, fuel, water, products, and food use
* Transport, travel, and commuting
* Waste to landfill
* Pollutants and chemicals use and disposal
* Procurement and service eco credentials
  1. Produce an action plan to reduce our carbon footprint in line with UK government and global climate plans detailing:
* Timescales on how, when and where initiatives will be carried out
* Detailed roles and responsibilities across the trust
* Looking at ‘high areas of carbon reduction’ measures as priority as well as ‘quick wins’ to engage stakeholders
* Ways in which we will reduce our natural resource and reuse and recycle products where feasible
* Streamline procurement and services by purchasing as a trust to minimise expenditure and control environmental impact.
* Work towards eco school’s certification for all academies.
* Continue to Monitor and review our carbon footprint by working with our stakeholders, partners, and service providers.
  1. Our environmental policy will be shared across our academies alongside our OAT wide action plan for academies to adopt and take responsibility to support an environmentally friendly society. We are fully committed to reducing the Trust’s impacts on the environment.

1. Policy Overview
   1. This policy is intended to ensure that the Trust puts in place the specific measures (as identified within the Statement of Intent) to meet environmental legislation, reduce carbon footprint to ultimately protect our natural resources.
   2. This policy must be adapted to the local academy site(s) in conjunction with Head Office environment group, and eco school accreditation.
   3. The expectations of the eco-policy will be communicated to all staff and stakeholders. All documents will be made available on the Eco-Trust area of OATnet Portal.
   4. Effective use of this policy will ensure pupils are taught about environmental sustainability, promote an eco-friendly attitude, and ensure that each OAT academy and OAT Head Office are as sustainable as they can be.

3. UK Carbon Reduction Commitment

3.1 Political Context of the Climate Challenge

* + 1. The UK Climate Change Act 2008 is a landmark piece of environmental legislation, one that continues to attract interest and inspire action all round the world. It sets out a clear, legally binding framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to ensure that the UK plays a part in avoiding dangerous climate change.
    2. The Climate Change Act 2008 set the country’s emission reduction targets. The ‘legally binding’ targets are a reduction of least 80% by 2050 (against the 1990 baseline).
    3. Legally the government currently have no legislative tools to enforce the trust to reduce its carbon footprint however that may change in the coming years with new government legislation and the drive to a zero-carbon economy
    4. In a political and social climate where carbon reduction is a major cause for concern for the trust, students, staff and parents, the trust has a moral obligation to make a change where it can

1. Trust’s obligations
   1. The Trust has a legal and moral duty to abide by specific regulations whilst operating its business on a day-to-day level covering elements from contaminated ground (when delivering a building project) through to managing our waste, chemicals, and gases, protecting our natural habitat and reporting of any incidents.
   2. Specific legislation and regulations below (but not limited to):

* Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013
* Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2006
* Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002
* Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017 (IRR17)
* Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013
* Hazardous waste regulations 2005
* Climate Change Act 2008
* Environmental protection act 1990
* The Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations 2015
* Control of Pollution Act 1974
* DfE (2012) ‘Top tips for sustainability in schools’
* UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030
* British Government 25 Year Environmental Plan (2018)

1. Trust roles and responsibilities
   1. OAT Head office team are responsible for delivering the Statement of Intent with support from each academy and external consultancies as required and for efficiency:

* Appoint an eco-team to support academies
* Delivering policies and guidance to academies and promoting best practice
* Provision of support and resource to academies
* Streamline procurement and services by purchasing as a trust to minimise expenditure and control environmental impact
* Measuring and monitoring the Trusts (and each academy’s) carbon footprint
* Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability
  1. Academies are responsible for working with OAT Head Office to deliver the Trust’s Statement of Intent, to include but not limited to:
* Appoint an eco-lead within each academy
* Adopting this policy and procedures set out by the Trust
* Adopting and sharing good practice with pupils, parents and the community, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy
* Delivering the actions following Eco-schools and wider actions as agreed at Trust level
* Adhering to specific environmental legislation as detailed within Trust policy and procedures
* Working with contractors/suppliers to ensure due diligence, that their environmental policies and actions sit in line with the OAT policy

1. Certification
   1. It is recommended by OAT that academies sign up to Eco-schools with milestones set out by OAT to be met.
   2. Each academy to achieve their Eco-schools Green Flag Award, completing the seven steps of the programme.
   3. In doing so each academy will have:

* Created an Eco-committee
* Conducted an environmental review of their site, investigating the academy’s environmental performance
* Action planned for improvements from review results
* Linked the academy environmental activity to the curriculum
* Informing the whole academy and wider community of what is happening
* Monitoring and evaluating progress, measuring change, and finding out what works
* Creating an ‘Eco-code’ as a ‘call to action’ that the whole academy can get behind

1. Enrichment Opportunity
   1. Academies will be offered the opportunity to become involved in Eco events throughout the academic year. With at least one Eco event per month. These events are on the OAT calendar and will be fully resourced and planned, and all materials made available on OATnet portal. There will also be Eco events via the academy catering teams.
2. Financial commitment
   1. Funding for Eco projects will come through Ormiston Trust, Ormiston Academies Trust, Ormiston Academies and through application to funding from external providers and businesses, by submitting bids.
   2. There are several trusts and grants available that will support projects with a strong Eco focus. These are listed at [Funding | Council for Learning Outside the Classroom (lotc.org.uk)](https://www.lotc.org.uk/category/funding/)
3. Action plan
   1. In line with the Statement of Intent, OAT will produce an Eco-Action Plan (in conjunction with relevant stakeholders) to reduce our carbon footprint in line with UK government and global climate plans:
   2. OATs key focus for the 2022/2023 academic year is planned as follows:

* Formulate an eco-group with cross departmental stakeholders and being pupil led
* Detail specific roles and responsibilities
* Calculation of the trusts carbon footprint and benchmarking to understand:
* What is our carbon footprint and what changes do we need to make?
* What has the biggest impact?
* What are the quick wins? (Reducing waste to landfill)
* How can we engage stakeholders further?
* Where do we require additional resource and funding?
* Use the data from the Eco-school's audit to drive the action plan so that this is student driven
* Guidance and resource documentation created
* Training provided for all staff
* Detailed action planning providing a longer-term approach to reducing the Trusts carbon footprint over the next 5-10 years in conjunction with the OAT energy policy.

1. Monitor and Review
   1. Progress against objectives will be monitored through a number of mediums including:

* Annual management review of this environmental policy and any associated environmental procedures
* Regular internal audits of environmental procedures
* The monitoring of environmental objectives and associated targets
  1. The Trust will continue to review its commitments and obligations in line with educational requirements and statutory obligations.
  2. Utilising a carbon tool to capture and measure our carbon footprint which can be viewed by all stakeholders across academies (students, staff, governors, trustees) to manage at a local and trust wide level to reduce carbon footprint.