

# Environmental Policy



## Introduction

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City of London College acknowledges that its activities have an environmental impact on both a local and global scale. It is also recognised that environmental sustainability plays a key part in achieving our strategic aims and objectives.

The College has declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency. We are committed to conducting our operations in a way that protects and enhances the environment. The College is taking actions to make a positive contribution by promoting environmental and sustainability awareness across the institution, via training and links with teaching and learning.

This policy has been developed to outline the College's commitment to the environment. It will be promoted amongst staff, students, suppliers and contractors as everyone has a role in delivering environmental sustainability and protection.

The College will establish a culture where environmental performance is continually improved. This will be achieved through regular reviews and the setting of challenging objectives and targets.

## Responsibilities

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Staff, students, contractors and visitors are expected to comply with all appropriate environmental legislation, to assist with minimising their environmental impact and to ensure environmental protection.

## Environmental Management System

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The College will develop, maintain and continually improve its Environment Management System (EMS), in line with the ISO14001 standard for environmental management. The EMS manages environmental and sustainability aspects concerning all College activities which take place in buildings operated by the City of London College.

## Environmental Actions

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The College will aim to improve its environmental performance through the following areas:

**Legal & Regulatory Compliance:** We will comply with all relevant environmental legislation and appropriate codes of compliance. A register of relevant legislation is maintained and made available within the College

**Environmental Protection and Prevention of Pollution:** The environmental aspects and impacts of the College will be reviewed annually and managed to ensure that any risks are minimised and the environment is protected. Emissions and discharges to air, land and water will be controlled and minimised in order to prevent pollution.

**Energy and Carbon:** The environmental impact of energy use will continually be monitored and targets to reduce energy consumption will be set. Emissions of carbon dioxide due to energy usage will be measured and recorded. Our Carbon Management Plan, containing carbon reduction targets, will be regularly reviewed and we will seek accreditation to the ISO 50001 standard.

**Waste Management:** We will minimise waste through the efficient use of resources and aim to increase the proportion of waste recycled. A waste engagement programme will be used to encourage the correct separation of waste to minimise contamination. Correct storage, collection and disposal of waste will be ensured.

**Sustainable Procurement:** The environmental impact of our procurement will be accounted for using a proportionate approach. Suppliers bidding for major contracts will be asked to demonstrate environmental standards and where appropriate, suppliers will be evaluated on environmental issues relevant to the performance of the contract. The environmental impacts over the lifecycle of purchases will be considered.

**Water Management:** Water consumption will be monitored, measured and reported on to support actions taken to reduce usage. The College has several water courses in the immediate vicinity of its estate and will take appropriate action to prevent contamination.

**Biodiversity:** The College will ensure that important habitat areas within its land holdings are protected. Ecological surveys will be used to identify projects that enhance biodiversity around the premises.

**Sustainable Transport:** Our Sustainable Travel Plan will be used to promote and support sustainable transport options and initiatives. Working with external partners, we will encourage students, staff and visitors to use alternatives to single occupancy cars to travel to and from the College.

**Education for Sustainable Development:** As part of our commitment to raising awareness of environmental sustainability, the College will seek to offer students opportunities to enhance their skills with sustainability projects. Where possible, sustainability awareness will also be integrated into academic teaching, using the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **Environmental Targets and Reporting**

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The College will set challenging objectives and targets, with an aim to continually improve the overall environmental performance of the organisation. Environmental performance against the objectives and targets will be reported on in the Annual Sustainability Report.

## Newsletters

Newsletters are a good way to summarise events and publicise upcoming events/programmes. Management are responsible for designing and distribution. Newsletters would be emailed externally to appropriate recipients and uploaded/emailed internally to the relevant sections and or persons.

## Policy Review

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This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis, or if there is a change in legal or other business related requirement.

Review Date	Description	Reviewer
October 2024	Environmental Policy	SMT Team

## Document History

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Version Date	Description	Authors
07/07/2020	Policy Approved and accepted, By operational board	Quality Standards Committee
15/08/2022	Environmental Policy	SMT Team
August 2023	Environmental Policy	SMT Team