

# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

### **Mission Statement**

At St Francis of Assisi, we believe God is at the heart of our school. As a school community, we work together to provide a caring, stimulating and nurturing environment, where every child can discover their true potential and grow closer to Christ. As pupils and staff we encourage in each other a love of learning. This is a place where we can all belong and where diversity and difference is celebrated. We rejoice in each others' uniqueness and respect the dignity and beauty of each individual. Using our gifts and talents we will actively seek to make a real difference - by caring for one another and caring for our world.

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School is committed to educating its pupils about the importance of respecting the environment, and to promoting sustainable development. The school recognises that it has a duty to prepare its children with the knowledge and skills to look after our planet, to manage the world's resources wisely and to make a positive contribution by improving its local area. We therefore aim to develop good habits and behaviour patterns amongst staff and pupils.

### Curriculum

We will:

- ensure that sustainability is covered consistently throughout the school in our curriculum.
- use the school grounds, including the prayer garden and the 2 outside classrooms, as a source of teaching and learning opportunities for pupils.

### Litter and Waste

We will:

- re-use single sided paper.
- photocopy on both sides.
- print two pages to a sheet, where possible.
- check carefully that we are only printing essential pages.
- where possible, ask pupils to share worksheets or put the work on the interactive whiteboards.
- where possible, laminate documents used frequently, especially outdoors.
- recycle waste such as paper
- reduce the amount of waste produced.
- ensure all classes have scrap paper trays.
- use scrap paper instead of a clean sheet of paper, wherever possible.
- help the Eco Council to keep grounds free of litter by ensuring pupils and staff put rubbish into the appropriate bin.

### Energy Use

We will:

- switch off lights and whiteboards in classrooms before leaving the classroom.
- ensure all computer monitors are switched whenever they are left unattended.
- ensure that radiators are managed efficiently.
- turn off laminating machine etc as soon as the use of the appliance is finished.
- turn off any tap left running and report any defective taps to the site supervisor.
- encourage children to participate in all the energy saving activities and allow Eco spies to carry out their duties.
- make all members of the school community aware of the link between energy use and financial cost.

### Transport

Although we have identified that the vast majority of our parents and children walk to school, we will continue to:

- raise awareness about the impact of transport to the environment and to people's health.
- maintain adequate and safe facilities for pupils and staff cycling and walking to school.

- Continue to take part in Walk to School weeks and Bike ability for Year 6 children.

#### Purchasing Policy

We will:

- check environmental standards of suppliers and contractors.
- Endeavour to purchase paper and other stationery that is recycled or from sustainable managed forests.

#### The Outdoor Environment

We will:

- ensure that the grounds provide for recreational use by pupils as well as provision to undertake exercise.
- be aware that the school grounds provide the visitor with the first impression of the school and will influence the attitude and behaviour of the pupils.

#### Healthy Living

We will:

- be aware that good mental as well as physical health at an early age not only helps avoid future health problems such as obesity and heart disease: It can also improve pupils' ability to learn.
- maintain a healthy school by looking holistically at issues of exercise, diet, the aesthetic quality of the school and its grounds.

#### Implementation and monitoring

The Eco council and a group of adults including teachers, governors and senior management will be involved in the development, implementation and review of the school's environmental policy. They should recommend action that could be taken to meet the policy's aims and where possible help to implement the action plan.

#### The Site Supervisor:

- will check that outside lights are not left on during the day time unless required for safety/security.
- will monitor the heating and hot water systems so that they run at maximum efficiency. Eighteen degrees is the recommended temperature for classrooms.
- will reduce water costs wherever possible.
- will monitor the cleaning staff and advise them on good energy practice.