

## Environmental Sustainability Policy



<b>Approved by:</b>	Penny Harris (Director) Jane Cox (Director)	<b>Date:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
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<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
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<b>Next review due by:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
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All policies are generated and reviewed with an awareness of equality and diversity in relation to pupils, staff and visitors. All policies are generated and reviewed placing safeguarding and wellbeing at the heart of all that we do.

### 1. Commitment and Policy Aims

The Directors of On Track are committed to sustainability and minimising the environmental impact of the company's activities via continuous improvement in environmental performance. The Directors will seek to develop an ethos of environmental responsibility in all its staff and pupils as well as in the management of the schools. The Directors recognise that in pursuing On Track's educational objectives, there is opportunity to protect its immediate environment and by exercising proper control over its activities, On Track will promote the use of sustainable resources and discourage wasteful or damaging practices. Accordingly, it is our policy to:

- a) Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and take such additional environmental protection measures as it considers necessary.
- b) Promote awareness of and commitment to supporting the DfE's strategy for the education sector in relation to sustainability and climate change (DfE (2022) 'Sustainability and climate change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems')
- c) Promote awareness and understanding of environmental issues among all staff, pupils and the external community.
- d) Integrate environmental management practices into every level within the company.
- e) Adapting our buildings, systems and processes to prepare for the effects of climate change
- f) Enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality and increasing access to and connection with nature
- g) Manage and conserve energy and water efficiently within all premises.
- h) Reduce waste of natural resources; promote waste reduction and recycling thereby promoting sustainable development.
- i) Regulate all waste production and disposal and discourage litter, graffiti and noise pollution.
- j) Reduce and, where practicable, prevent pollution.
- k) Promote the use of less environmentally damaging transport options.

- l) Consider the environmental impact of any new development.
- m) Maintain premises in an environmentally sensitive way.
- n) Encourage 'bottom-up' initiatives to improve environmental performance.
- o) Ensure that this policy and all reports and reviews of environmental performance are communicated to all staff and pupils and are available to the public.

## **2. Fulfilling Policy Aims**

Each school will

- a) Ensure environmental education is regularly addressed within the school curriculum and prepare young people for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience
- b) provide opportunities to develop a broad knowledge, experience and understanding of the natural world, sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change and to translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.
- c) Actively seeking sustainable procurement opportunities including recycled and recyclable products
- d) Seek to buy more environmentally friendly and efficient products
- e) Minimise the use of paper in our offices
- f) Use electronic filing wherever possible
- g) Minimise paper printing wherever possible
- h) Reuse and recycle where possible.
- i) Seek to buy more environmentally friendly and efficient products
- j) Seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible
- k) Seek to use renewable energy suppliers
- l) Switch off lights and electrical equipment when not in use
- m) Adjust the heating with energy consumption in mind
- n) Seek to use energy efficient lighting
- o) Encourage staff and pupils not to leave taps running
- p) Make drinking water available to pupils and encourage its use
- q) Where possible, reduce the need to travel by promoting use of virtual meetings and local facilities
- r) Make efforts to accommodate the needs of those using public transport or bicycles
- s) Seek to purchase energy efficient vehicles
- t) Involve staff and pupils in the implementation of this policy for greater commitment and improved performance

## **3. Review**

In order to ensure that this policy is relevant, if you have any comments please email [directors@ontrackededucation.com](mailto:directors@ontrackededucation.com)