



## BUCKLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



### **INTRODUCTION:**

Buckland Primary School is committed to being an environmentally friendly school and promoting a 'greener' lifestyle for all. We recognise the need for sustainability, particularly within today's environmental and economic climate.

### **AIM:**

We aim to educate the pupils on the conservation of the local and global environment, the education of the value of living sustainably and the promotion of these values by all stakeholders, within and outside of school.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To give our pupils the information they need to make informed choices about being environmentally friendly.
- To encourage all children to care for themselves, others and the planet.
- To ensure that our children receive opportunities to become involved in caring for their local and global communities.

### **ECO-CODE:**

Buckland Primary school has developed an Eco Code (Appendix 1) in discussion with all pupils and staff which is implemented daily within the school. Each classroom is required to have an Eco Board which displays a copy of the schools Eco Code, allowing children to remind themselves of the rules we have agreed to. Each class chooses a focus per term from the schools Eco Code and demonstrates evidence towards this, allowing children to be actively involved in sustainable activities/topics each term.

### **ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION:**

The school is committed to supporting the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) National Framework for Sustainable Schools which identifies eight 'doorways' as key ways to promote development:

<b>Food and drink</b>	As a model in the promotion of healthy, local and sustainable food and drink.
<b>Energy and Water</b>	As a model of energy efficiency, renewable energy use and water management.
<b>Travel and traffic</b>	The promotion of sustainable travel and appropriate alternatives to reduce car use at both the start and end of the school day.
<b>Purchasing and waste</b>	A model in the promotion of waste minimisation and sustainable procurement.
<b>Buildings and grounds</b>	Where possible all buildings to make visible use of sustainable design features and develop the school grounds in ways to help pupils learn about the natural world and sustainable living.
<b>Inclusion and participation</b>	As a model of social inclusion, enabling all pupils to fully in school life.
<b>Local well-being</b>	As a model of good corporate citizenship within our local community.
<b>Global dimension</b>	As a model of good global citizenship.

#### **CURRICULUM LINKS:**

As an Eco-Schools 'Green-Flag' school, we are committed to ensuring that environmental issues and evaluation of sustainable strategies are contained within the curriculum we teach, offering children links with all subject areas. Teachers identify learning opportunities in their medium-term planning to support knowledge, skills and understanding of sustainability. Within the planning documents teachers make clear links with specific themes of sustainability. For example, within mathematics data handling can be closely linked with 'Walk to School' data and monitoring energy use, using ECO driver.

#### **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF STAFF:**

All staff who are interested in further developing their knowledge of sustainable attitudes, links to the curriculum or enhancing skills will be offered the opportunity to attend any relevant course(s). Staff are also offered in school training as and when the opportunities arise.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS AND CARERS:**

The partnership of home and school is critical in shaping how children and young people behave, particularly where environmentally friendly behaviours are concerned. Through establishing shared values and consistent messages about sustainability we can help our children to make appropriate lifestyle choices.

- All new parents will be given a copy of the Sustainability Policy on admission to the school.
- Parents will be kept informed of our Sustainability Policy and consulted over any changes.
- The school will encourage parents to become involved in any out-of-school events involving sustainable actions, such as 'Community Working Parties'.

## **MONITORING AND REVIEW:**

The school's Eco team is actively involved in the consultation process involving sustainability issues. Their suggestions for improvement are acted upon and the children have an important role in making things better within the school and local environment.

All staff are responsible for the curriculum development. The head teacher and Eco leader are responsible for supporting colleagues in the delivery of the Sustainability Policy.

The school works closely with national organisations that promote the sustainability agenda and undertake their own assessments and verification of good practice. To date the school holds accreditation with:

- National Healthy School Status
- Eco-Schools Green Flag
- RHS Gardening Benchmark Scheme (Level 3)