



The LETTA Trust

Environmental Sustainability Policy

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Reviewed by:	Trust Board Resources Committee	Signed:	

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1. Statement of intent

The LETTA Trust is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that pupils have the necessary skills and knowledge to understand environmental concerns, so that they can apply this to their lives and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle.

We encourage both pupils and staff to think about the environment and how their actions will impact upon their local surroundings, as well as the global environment. Effective use of this policy will ensure pupils are taught about environmental sustainability, promote an eco- friendly attitude, and ensure that the school itself is as sustainable as it can be.

2. Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Net Zero Target)
- UK Net Zero Strategy (2021)
- Environment Act 2021
- Waste (Circular Economy) Reforms 2023
- Single-Use Plastics Ban (2023)
- WEEE Regulations 2013
- DfE Sustainability & Climate Change Strategy (2022–2030)
- Mandatory Climate Action Plans (2025)
- National Education Nature Park
- Good Estate Management for Schools (GEMS)

3. Roles and responsibilities

The Trust Board is responsible for:

- Reviewing the environmental and sustainability policy
- Consider environmental impacts where any new buildings or refurbishments are being planned

The Local Governing Board is responsible for:

- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage
- Identifying, with the site manager, energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this, such as installing motion sensor lights
- Ensuring where possible that equipment purchased is made from sustainable resources, for example, biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic

The school is responsible for:

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability
- Including and engaging staff, governors, pupils, parents, and the local community to improve and sustain the world today for future generations
- Sharing good practice with pupils, parents, and the community, and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this policy
- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities
- Sharing the responsibility with the wider community for promoting and practising policies which show concern and care for the future of the global environment

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- The overall implementation of this policy
- Ensuring that teaching staff have the necessary knowledge to teach pupils about environmental concerns
- Ensuring that staff and pupils understand the importance of energy conservation, for example, ensuring that they turn lights off when not in use
- Communicating with disposal companies regarding the disposal of recyclable and non-recyclable waste, so that the school can implement a waste disposal procedure for all staff and pupils to follow
- Ensuring that catering staff understand the importance of recycling and disposing of waste sustainably
- Ensuring that the Site Manager understands their responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the school grounds

Teaching staff are responsible for:

- Promoting the need for environmental sustainability in their lessons
- Ensuring their classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that computers and lights are turned off when not in use

The Premises Team responsible for:

- Ensuring that outside lights are switched off when they are not needed
- Recording energy use and reporting any waste to the Local Governing Board
- Monitoring the cleaning staff and advising them on good energy practice
- An Eco Council/Eco Warriors will consist of pupils from Year 1 to Year 6. One child from each year group is elected by their peers. The Eco Warriors aim to meet each half term to discuss ideas and campaigns. Minutes from each meeting are to be recorded by the Eco Schools Coordinator and ideas fed back to the rest of the school and the wider community

Pupil 'Eco warriors' are responsible for:

- Monitoring any litter problems in the wider community and addressing any problems
- Promoting a litter free environment to other pupils

- Reviewing and promoting sustainability throughout the school

Pupils are responsible for:

- Applying their learning at home and aiming to be sustainable outside of school
- Walking or cycling to school, when possible
- Using energy sustainably, for example, not leaving taps running
- Be responsible for keeping our classrooms, school and grounds clean and tidy
- Eat healthy, natural fruit and vegetable snacks, which don't come in paper or plastic packaging
- Use the right bins so that we can recycle and compost our waste

Parents are responsible for:

- Promoting an eco-friendly lifestyle at home
- Encouraging children to walk or cycle to school, when possible
- Recycling at home and ensuring that their children understand how to recycle
- Reinforcing the learning that the school implements in regard to the environment

4. Climate Action Planning & Monitoring

The Trust will maintain a Climate Action Plan including:

- Annual carbon footprint measurement
- Net Zero pathway
- Heat decarbonisation planning
- Biodiversity and nature goals
- Waste and water reduction

Sustainable procurement objectives

5. Waste and recycling

We will reduce the amount of waste we produce by:

- Eliminate single-use plastics in line with UK regulations
- Writing and printing on both sides of paper wherever possible
- Using emails as much as possible, to reduce paper waste
- Using emails, the school's website and parent text messaging procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste
- Composting food waste, both from the kitchen and food brought into school by pupils
- Ensuring selective waste collection and organic waste treatment for composting and mulching
- Putting used paper in a scrap paper drawer and re-using it whenever possible.
- Only printing documents when it is essential

- Making sure that all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via re-use or recycling schemes
- Where possible, encouraging pupils to share worksheets
- Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use
- Pupils will be encouraged to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles
- Maintain clear recycling systems and comply with WEEE disposal
- There will be clearly labelled bins located throughout the school for recycling, food waste and general waste
- We will display posters explaining important environmental considerations, for example, what sort of waste can be recycled and how litter can be detrimental to the environment
- Any paper containing personal or sensitive information will not be re-used and will be disposed of in accordance with the school's Information Governance Policy
- Teachers will encourage pupils to partake in weekly litter picking around the school grounds as well as a monthly litter pick in the local area
- Litter picking volunteers will be in groups no larger than 10 and will be always accompanied by a member of staff

6. Littering

The Trust understands that, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, littering is a criminal offence. It also understands that fines may be incurred where individuals deliberately litter the premises.

Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly. Specifically, individuals are responsible for:

- Putting litter in a bin
- Using the appropriate recycling bins
- Using resources thoughtfully
- Reusing resources where possible
- Assisting the site manager and eco warriors with the cleanliness of the premises.
- The Site Manager takes overall responsibility for the overall cleanliness of the school premises
- The Site Manager arranges and coordinates waste disposal from the premises and ensures that items are disposed of correctly

The school appoints an eco-committee consisting of staff members and pupils, who are responsible for:

- Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school
- Monitoring the school's anti-littering procedures

- Listening and responding to questions from the school committee
- To mitigate risks of littering, the school implements the following procedures:
 - Designated eating areas – pupils and staff are only permitted to eat in these areas to prevent unwanted litter
 - Waste disposal – bins are provided throughout the school, with additional bins provided in eating areas, to ensure sufficient availability for waste disposal
 - The school raises awareness of anti-littering amongst pupils and staff through dedicated assemblies, PSHE lessons, staff training days and additional resources, such as leaflets and posters
 - Any individual known to have littered the premises will be required to dispose of the litter correctly
- Pupils and staff will be encouraged to walk to school, where possible
- The benefits of daily exercise, such as walking to school, when possible, will be promoted throughout the school
- We will encourage teachers and other members of staff to car share whenever possible, for example, when travelling to external training days
- We will produce informative material, such as posters and leaflets, regarding the impact of the carbon emissions produced by personal vehicles and public transport on the environment, which will be displayed and distributed around the school
- We will have suitable and safe storage for staff and pupils to store bicycles
- We recognise that there are risks involved when individuals choose to walk or cycle to school; therefore, we will organise road safety lessons in PSHE

7. School grounds

The Local Governing Boards and the site managers will monitor the consumption of energy within the school, recognising where the school is wasting energy and implementing measures to reduce energy consumption. In addition, the Trust will:

- Maintain and enhance biodiversity
- Produce Biodiversity Action Plans
- Participate in the National Education Nature Park
- Prioritise nature-based and outdoor learning
- Create habitats and reduce pesticide use

8. Healthy living

- We will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment
- We will discourage environmental indifference and promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment

- We will encourage staff and pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving
- We will ensure pupils complete the daily mile exercise each day

9. Sustainable farming and fishing

- We will teach pupils where food comes from as part of the PSHE lessons, including giving them first-hand experience of growing their own fruit or vegetables
- School meals will be designed with due regard to seasonal produce and locally sourced food

10. Transport

- Promote sustainable travel by encouraging walking, cycling and scooting, providing secure storage, offering staff car-sharing options, and delivering road safety education
- Where possible, we will approach local food suppliers for their produce to be used in school meals
- Pupils will be taught about the importance of sustainable fishing and farming, and any fish products used in school meals will be sustainably sourced

11. Energy and water management

We will reduce our energy usage by:

- Switching off lights when they're not in use, improve energy efficiency (LED lighting, insulation, smart controls) and plan transitions to low-carbon heating
- Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather and installing draught excluders so that warm air is retained
- Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example, computers, projectors, and interactive white boards, when they're not in use
- Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly
- Conserving water by installing systems that reduce waste such as cistern dams and flow restrictors
- Insulating hot water pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of frozen pipes in winter
- Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority by the site manager
- Auditing the amount of energy used each term
- Upgrading the school's heating system to a modern, more efficient system, including a smart meter, to reduce emissions

- Displaying information around the school and in classrooms to ensure that pupils understand the importance of switching off lights, computers and taps when they're not in use
- Monitoring the environmental sustainability of suppliers and adjusting procurement arrangements accordingly
- Making all members of the school's community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs
- Appointing an individual, e.g., the site manager, to ensure that these measures are carried out
- We will display our Display Energy Certificate in plain sight, for example, in the school foyer
- Conduct annual carbon assessments
- Install water-saving devices and monitor usage

12. Reducing carbon emissions

We are committed to a long-term Net Zero pathway. Emissions will be reduced by:

- Reducing embodied carbon through procurement
- Implementing renewable technologies that export surplus energy to the national grid
- Implementing a rewards system for pupils and/or staff who reduce carbon emissions by walking, cycling or taking public transport to school
- Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around school
- Promoting the benefits of recycling
- Sourcing school supplies from UK suppliers as much as possible
- We will communicate with our LA and other schools to enhance our provisions and continue to develop and implement best practice within the school

13. Sustainable procurement of goods

- We will devote time to ensuring product procurement is done in the most sustainable way taking into account the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, DfE sustainability standards, Lifecycle carbon and environmental impact considerations.
- Our purchasing team will ensure that produce bought is cost efficient and sourced from within the UK or locally where possible
- We will obtain contracts with suppliers that stipulate their terms of purchase, paying particular regard to pricing, quality and their returns policy

14. Curriculum

- We aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability, embedding climate change and sustainability across the curriculum. Individual school curriculums will outline how the topics are embedded into the school's curriculum
- Each school is a member of the Eco Schools programme. This is an international initiative that encourages pupils to engage with environment and sustainable development issues. It provides a highly structured system for the environmental management of schools. (www.eco-schools.org)
- The structure of the Eco-Schools process is made up of seven steps and this forms the basis of the programme.
The seven steps include:

1. Eco Committee
2. Environmental Review
3. Action Plan
4. Linking to the curriculum
5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Involving the whole school and the wider community
7. Eco Code



Climate Action Plan

Action	DfE Link	Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of CAP
Curriculum				
1. Develop a Trust approach which explores climate change within different subject areas	Climate education and green careers	Autumn 2028	HT	
2. Find creative ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum, especially in subjects where it may usually be absent such as PE, art or history	Climate education and green careers	Autumn 2028	HT	
3. Increase integration of climate change into relevant subjects	Climate education and green careers	Autumn 2028	HT	
4. Promoting green careers to pupils	Climate education and green careers	Autumn 2028	HT	
5. Pupils learn about growing food and the impact of climate change on its production	Climate education and green careers	Autumn 2028	HT	
Waste				
1. Encourage students and staff to recycle – exploring recycling of electronics.	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	



2. Identify what is being thrown away in your schools. Do a waste audit of classrooms, staff room, dining hall and the school office.	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	
3. Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, batteries etc.)	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	

Action	DfE Link	Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of CAP
Food				
1. Embed new food waste segregation requirements.	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	
2. Catering team to have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste.	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	
3. Trial menus in advance with the school council.	Climate education / decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	
Air quality				
1. Students create signs with air pollution information to display around the school.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Autumn 2028	HT	



2. Create a clean air zone around schools by implementing 'active' solutions (encouraging parents / carers to always switch off engines outside school, consider parents parking elsewhere and walking) to reduce pollution levels in and around school premises.	Adaptation and Resilience	Autumn 2028	HT	
3. Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils / staff	Biodiversity	Autumn 2028	HT	
Travel				
1.Reducing travel emissions on school trips	Decarbonisation	Autumn 2028	HT	