



Environmental and Sustainability Policy

“Taking the extra step in learning, kindness and ambition for ourselves, others and our world.”

Review Cycle	Date of Current Policy	Adopted by	Review Date
Annually	March 2026	Governing Body	March 2027

Signed: *A Barnes* Mrs A Barnes, Headteacher

Christian Vision, Ethos and Values

Rooted in Christian love, Broadwindsor CE VC Primary School nurtures every child to fulfil their God-given potential. We grow happy, creative and well-rounded learners who show courage, kindness and perseverance, take responsibility, and serve our community with faith, hope and respect.

As a Church of England school, we recognise our responsibility as stewards of God’s creation. Environmental sustainability is integral to our Christian values and moral purpose. We seek to model responsible leadership and empower pupils to act with hope and courage in addressing environmental challenges.

1. Policy Rationale and National Context

This policy aligns with:

- The DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (2022)
- Dorset Council climate and ecological priorities
- Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (EIF)
- Relevant environmental legislation

In line with the DfE strategy, we are committed to contributing to the national ambition for the education sector to become **net zero by 2050**, and to ensuring that sustainability is embedded through:

1. **Excellence in Education and Skills**

2. **Net Zero Estate**
 3. **Resilience and Adaptation**
 4. **Climate Leadership and Accountability**
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2. Aims

We aim to:

- Embed sustainability within our Christian vision and daily practice.
 - Deliver high-quality environmental education across the curriculum.
 - Reduce our environmental footprint and contribute towards net zero.
 - Develop pupils as responsible, informed global citizens.
 - Demonstrate strong leadership and governance in sustainability.
 - Work collaboratively with Dorset Council and the wider community.
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3. Leadership and Governance

The Governing Body will:

- Provide strategic oversight of sustainability priorities.
- Monitor measurable targets linked to energy, waste and curriculum provision.
- Ensure environmental considerations are included in estate and procurement decisions.
- Review this policy annually.

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure implementation of this policy.
- Embed sustainability within the School Development Plan.
- Report annually to Governors on progress and impact.

A designated Sustainability Lead will coordinate operational and curriculum initiatives and facilitate pupil leadership (e.g., Eco-Committee).

This demonstrates effective Leadership and Management in line with Ofsted criteria.

4. Curriculum – Quality of Education

Intent

In line with the DfE strategy's goal of improving climate literacy, our curriculum ensures pupils:

- Understand climate science and environmental systems.
- Recognise the moral and ethical dimensions of sustainability.
- Develop skills to evaluate evidence and think critically.
- Are equipped with knowledge and character to contribute positively to society.

Implementation

Environmental sustainability is embedded across:

- **Science** – climate systems, materials, ecosystems.
- **Geography** – environmental change, resource use, sustainability.

- **Religious Education** – stewardship and moral responsibility.
- **PSHE** – citizenship, responsibility and community action.
- **Design & Technology** – sustainable design principles.

Outdoor learning and local environmental engagement enhance experiential understanding.

Impact

Pupils demonstrate:

- Secure environmental knowledge.
 - Responsible behaviours and attitudes.
 - Active participation in sustainability initiatives.
 - Personal development characterised by responsibility and service.
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5. Net Zero and Sustainable Operations

In support of the DfE's Net Zero ambition, the school will:

Energy

- Monitor energy consumption and seek year-on-year reduction.
- Use energy-efficient lighting and systems where feasible.
- Promote pupil-led energy awareness campaigns.

Waste

- Reduce waste generation.
- Increase recycling rates.
- Minimise single-use plastics where practicable.

Water

- Monitor water usage.
- Promote responsible water conservation behaviours.

Procurement

- Consider sustainability in purchasing decisions.
- Use Dorset Council frameworks where appropriate.

Biodiversity and Grounds

- Promote wildlife-friendly planting.
 - Develop outdoor learning spaces.
 - Support biodiversity enhancement projects.
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6. Climate Resilience and Adaptation

The school will consider climate resilience in:

- Site management and estate decisions.
- Emergency planning.
- Long-term maintenance planning.

Risk assessments will reflect environmental risks where relevant, supporting safeguarding and health & safety duties.

7. Pupil Leadership and Personal Development

We will:

- Establish or maintain a pupil Eco-Committee or equivalent.
- Enable pupils to lead campaigns and monitor impact.
- Encourage service-based community environmental action.

This supports Ofsted's Personal Development judgement by promoting active citizenship and moral responsibility.

8. Community and Partnerships

We will:

- Engage parents and carers in sustainability initiatives.
 - Work with Dorset Council and local organisations.
 - Share good practice within our local school network.
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9. Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability

Progress will be monitored through:

- Annual sustainability review report to Governors.
- Energy and waste data analysis.
- Pupil voice surveys.
- School Development Plan targets.

This policy supports transparent and accountable governance in line with Ofsted expectations.

10. Equality and Inclusion

Sustainability education will be inclusive and accessible to all pupils. We recognise that environmental issues disproportionately affect vulnerable communities and will promote fairness and global responsibility.

11. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body or sooner if required due to changes in legislation, DfE guidance, or Dorset Council policy.