

# Brandesburton Primary School Environmental Policy



## Introduction

It is vital that everyone at Brandesburton Primary School understands that every action and every resource used has an impact on the environment locally and globally. It is vital that through education, good management and making economical choices everyone can help to achieve the goal of a truly sustainable school.

Key words in this process are: RESPECT, REDUCE, RE-USE and RESTORE

## Aims and Objectives

- To be inspired by and understand the culture of opportunities in Britain and around the world.
- Maintain a link to school in Germany.
- To find ways to re-use materials which we find hard to recycle, and to continue to recycle as much as possible.
- To support Fair Trade.
- To reduce energy costs in School.
- To encourage more children to walk, cycle and scoot to school.
- To appreciate the environment through our work and find more opportunities to appreciate how we can influence the environment for the good of all life.
- To improve the health and wellbeing of everybody at Brandesburton Primary School.
- To enable the Eco Warriors to work effectively to improve the quality of life and sustainability of all that we do at school.

## Eco-Warriors

The Eco-Committee meets once a week to review and amend policy and practice and to look at ways of achieving the school's environmental aims.

A typical agenda includes:

1. Those present
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting
4. Energy updates
5. Special initiatives
6. Fair Trade Status updates
7. Links with other organisations
8. Recycling updates
9. Garden Club links
10. Any other business

## Eco Schools Green Flag Award

The school uses the Eco School Green Flag Award as the basis for developing the Green Agenda at school. The award provided an excellent basis to ensure that all aspects of the sustainability agenda are addressed.

## What are we already doing and maintaining?

- **Global Perspective.**
- **"Sustainable" school assemblies.**
- **Annual Multicultural week/ or themed event.**
- **Waste Minimisation/Recycling.**
- **Annual environmental week.**
- **All classes have paper recycling facilities.**
- **Large composters in school grounds.**

## Energy

- Energy walk completed annually to co-inside with health and safety inspections.
- Eco Warrior reps. are aware to shut doors and windows and turn off lights which are not automatic.
- All lights are labelled to remind people to switch them off.
- Computers and photocopiers switch off automatically each evening.

## **Transport**

- Cycle proficiency training is provided for all year fives.
- Records are kept on how pupils travel to school.
- The school works closely to promote non-car travel to school with the schools Travel Plan Advisor.

## **Travel Plan**

- The school has a travel plan with developing targets. This is supported by the Local Authority.
- We continue to take part in the cycling proficiency scheme to encourage safe cycling.
- The school provides Pedestrian Skills Training for all pupils in Y4.
- The school provides 'Scooter' training in Y3.
- We encourage staff to share transport whenever possible.

## **Healthy Living**

- Water bottles are encouraged.
- Lots of extra curriculum sports activities are promoted.
- Biking and scootering are encouraged with new facilities.
- Education in PSHCE.
- Health/sports week every June.
- The School has the Healthy Schools Award.
- Achievement and renewal of the Active Mark Award annually.
- Free fruit/vegetables are provided every day for pupils in EYFS/KS1.
- No Sweets policy.

## **School Grounds**

- The pupils grow vegetables in the school gardens.
- All pupils use the conservation area to promote curriculum links.

## **Composting**

- Gardening waste is put into the school compost bins.

## **Biodiversity**

- School has an Eco garden in which children maintain and study the wide range of habitats.
- The Eco garden is attended by children to make links between curriculum areas.
- Pupils are made aware of the living things within the pond and in the wild area.
- A bug hotel, log piles and lady bird boxes have been added.

## **Curriculum Links Include**

- Appreciation of the environment.
- Protection of habitats.
- Maintaining the environment.
- Inspiration from the environment.
- Use of natural resources.
- Growing produce.
- Recycling.
- All children are engaged in the sustainability agenda.

## **Recycling**

- Paper recycling bins are provided.
- All collected paper is sent for recycling.
- Uniform is recycled via a second hand stall at the Summer Fair and Enterprise rail.
- The PTFA organise a termly collection of unwanted clothing which is recycled – Bags 2 School.
- All fruit/vegetable waste is composted and used on the school's vegetable garden.
- Our printer cartridges are returned to the supplier for recycling.
- All photocopying paper purchased is recycled.
- IT equipment is recycled through Rit.

**Use of paper**

- Staff are asked to use double – sided photocopying wherever possible.
- Staff and pupils are asked to use the paper bins to recycle all paper.
- Each classroom should contain a scrap paper box.
- Staff and pupils are asked not to print documents or websites unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Staff, are asked to use e-mail wherever possible.
- Wherever possible letters to parents are emailed.
- Display paper is taken down carefully and re-used if possible.

**Fair Trade**

- The school is keen to promote Fair Trade.

**The Planet/Our Inheritance**

Through all of the above our pupils should appreciate the impact for good or ill that humans can have on their environment. The pupils should take with them to secondary education a personal investment in the world around them.

The pupils should be equipped to make informed choices.

Reviewed January 2021

To be reviewed January 2023