Wellington Primary

Eco and Sustainability Policy

Approved by:	Governing Body	**Date:**	June 2026
Last reviewed on:	May 2025		
Next review due by:	May 2027		

Eco and Sustainability Policy

1. Policy Statement

Wellington Primary School is committed to promoting environmental sustainability and developing responsible attitudes towards the environment among pupils, staff, governors, parents, and the wider community.

This policy supports the Department for Education (DfE) Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (2022), which aims for all education settings to become more sustainable and climate resilient by 2030. The school recognises its responsibility to contribute towards environmental sustainability through education, operational practice, and community engagement.

We are committed to:

- Embedding sustainability within the curriculum;
- Reducing the school's environmental impact;
- Promoting sustainable behaviours;
- Improving biodiversity and the school environment;
- Supporting pupil leadership and participation in environmental action.

2. Legal and Statutory Context

This policy has been developed with regard to:

- DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (2022)
- Education Act 2002
- Climate Change Act 2008
- Environment Act 2021
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Equality Act 2010

The policy also reflects the DfE expectation that all schools should:

- Nominate a sustainability lead and climate action lead;
- Develop a climate action plan;
- Increase opportunities for climate education;
- Improve biodiversity;

- Reduce energy use and waste;
- Increase resilience to climate risks.

3. Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- Promote environmental responsibility across the whole school community;
- Develop pupils' understanding of sustainability, biodiversity, and climate change;
- Encourage active participation in environmental improvement;
- Reduce waste, pollution, and unnecessary energy use;
- Promote sustainable travel and healthy lifestyles;
- Improve and protect the school environment;
- Ensure sustainability is considered in school decision-making and procurement;
- Support pupil wellbeing through access to green spaces and outdoor learning.

4. Curriculum and Learning

The school will provide opportunities for pupils to learn about sustainability and environmental responsibility through the curriculum and wider school experiences.

This will include:

- Teaching about climate change, sustainability, biodiversity, and conservation through relevant curriculum areas;
- Providing opportunities for outdoor learning and environmental projects;
- Encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and pupil voice;
- Promoting understanding of local, national, and global environmental issues;
- Supporting pupil participation in eco projects, assemblies, campaigns, and events.

Teaching will be age-appropriate and aligned with the National Curriculum.

5. Leadership and Governance

Governing Body

The governing body will:

- Support the implementation of this policy;
- Monitor sustainability priorities and progress;

- Ensure environmental considerations are reflected in strategic planning where appropriate.

Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team

The Headteacher and leadership team will:

- Promote a whole-school approach to sustainability;
- Ensure environmental considerations are included in school improvement planning where appropriate;
- Support staff training and pupil leadership opportunities;
- Oversee implementation of sustainability objectives.

Sustainability / Climate Action Lead

The school will identify a member of staff to coordinate sustainability initiatives and support the development of the school's climate action priorities in line with DfE guidance.

Responsibilities may include:

- Coordinating eco initiatives;
- Supporting curriculum development;
- Monitoring environmental targets;
- Liaising with external agencies and local initiatives;
- Supporting pupil leadership groups.

6. Environmental Management

Energy Use

The school will:

- Encourage efficient use of heating, lighting, and electrical equipment;
- Promote switching off unused equipment and lights;
- Monitor energy consumption where possible;
- Consider sustainability when replacing equipment or improving facilities.

Water Conservation

The school will:

- Promote responsible use of water;
- Address leaks or water wastage promptly;

- Raise awareness of water conservation.

Waste and Recycling

The school will:

- Reduce unnecessary waste;
- Encourage recycling and reuse;
- Promote reduction in paper use through digital systems where appropriate;
- Ensure recycling facilities are clearly identified.

Sustainable Procurement

Where possible, the school will:

- Consider environmental sustainability when purchasing goods and services;
- Reduce single-use plastics and unnecessary packaging;
- Promote ethical and locally sourced products where feasible and within budget constraints.

7. Biodiversity and School Grounds

The school recognises the importance of biodiversity and access to nature for both environmental sustainability and pupil wellbeing.

The school will:

- Maintain and improve green spaces;
- Encourage planting and gardening projects;
- Develop wildlife-friendly areas where possible;
- Support outdoor learning opportunities;
- Promote respect for natural habitats and living things.

8. Sustainable Travel

The school encourages sustainable and active travel wherever possible.

The school will:

- Promote walking, cycling, scooting, and public transport;
- Support road safety education;

- Participate in local travel initiatives where appropriate;
- Encourage reduction in vehicle idling near the school site.

9. Community Engagement

The school will work with:

- Parents and carers;
- Local organisations;
- Community groups;
- The London Borough of Hounslow;
- External environmental agencies;

to support environmental awareness and sustainable practices.

The school may participate in:

- Eco-Schools initiatives;
- National environmental events;
- Local sustainability projects.

10. Equality and Inclusion

The school will ensure that all pupils can participate fully in environmental learning and eco initiatives regardless of age, ability, background, religion, gender, or additional needs, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

11. Health and Safety

All environmental activities and outdoor learning experiences will be carried out in accordance with the school's Health and Safety Policy and risk assessment procedures.

12. Monitoring and Review

The implementation of this policy will be monitored through:

- Eco Committee or pupil leadership groups;
- Curriculum monitoring;
- School audits and evaluations;
- Feedback from pupils, staff, governors, and parents;
- Review of environmental initiatives and outcomes.

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or DfE guidance changes.

13. Linked Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Curriculum Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy
- School Development Plan
- School Travel Plan
- Premises Management Policies

14. Approval and Review

Approved by	Date
Governing Body	
Headteacher	
Policy Review Date	