



Sustainability Policy Statement

Purpose

The purpose of this Sustainability Policy Statement is to outline how our school promotes sustainability and climate action, through our actions and activities. Sustainability can be defined as the ability to exist and develop without depleting natural resources for the future.

Scope

Sustainability is a community issue and applies to all students, teachers and employees of our school. Parents and guardians should note, and where possible, promote, the Statement. The Board of Management of the school will ensure that decisions made in respect of the school align with the Statement.

Vision, mission and values

Our school's vision is for every child to become a caring, informed, and responsible global citizen.

Our school's mission is to integrate sustainability into all aspects of school life curriculum, culture, and community.

Our schools' values are:

- **Respect** – for people, nature, and our planet.
- **Responsibility** – for our actions and their impact on the environment.
- **Kindness** – towards each other and all living things.
- **Curiosity** – to learn about our world and how to protect it.
- **Action** – taking steps, big and small, to create a more sustainable future.

Whole School Approach to Sustainability

- Our school has adopted this Sustainability Policy Statement. It clearly details the aims and objectives of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in our school, its relationship to the vision and mission of the school.
- Our school recognises Education for Sustainable Development as a cross-curricular theme, and this is co-ordinated effectively in our school.
- Opportunities are identified to introduce and address sustainability in the classroom, across all subjects.
- All our school policies are aligned to the principles of sustainable development.

- Resources to assist in the teaching of sustainability are adequate and sufficient at all levels.
- Our school carries out regular self-evaluation of our teaching practices in the area of sustainable development.
- Our school is a member of the Irish Schools Sustainability Network (www.ISSN.ie)
- Our school keeps up to date with developments in ESD including by being registered for the quarterly ESD Newsletter

Environmental sustainability

Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme, offering a well-defined, controllable way for schools to take environmental issues from the curriculum and apply them to the day-to-day running of their school.

Our school is part of the Green Schools Programme.

Our school has been awarded Green School Flags for the following – Travel, Litter and Waste, Water, Energy, Climate and Biodiversity. We are currently working towards getting our Global Citizenship Mariene Environment Flag in March 2026. Our school has a Green Team comprising staff and students whose role is to Promote Environmental Awareness by Educating pupils and staff about environmental issues such as recycling, energy conservation, water usage, and biodiversity.

Lead the Green-Schools Programme

Drive the school's participation in the Green-Schools initiative - An Taisce's Green-Schools in Ireland.

Work towards earning and maintaining the Green Flags our school has been awarded.

- Our school engages with SEAI Education & Youth Programme's curriculum linked energy Resources, pupil Workshops and teacher CPD
- Our school engages with the [SEAI Energy in Education](#) resources and energy management tools to monitor and report energy consumption.
- Our school engages with Global Green in Carrick on Shannon around sustainable development and conducting Energy Audits on our school.
- Our school resources are procured and utilised taking into consideration their impact on the environment. Our paper is recycled, and all shredded paper is offered to families who use this for pet bedding.
- Our school environment clearly displays information on sustainability and sustainable practices in prominent and accessible places.
- Our school actively promotes and fosters an attitude of care and responsibility towards the natural environment.

- Our school promotes and facilitates outdoor learning.
- Our school promotes and facilitates biodiversity we have planters and a bug hotel.
- Our school promotes sustainable transport including where possible, walking and cycling to school. Our school avails of the Cycle Safety Course offered each year by An Taisce
- Our school engages with the Safe Routes to School programme: and parents are encouraged to park nearby and walk / scoot to school where possible.
- Our school engages with Picker Pals programme that support and promote Environmental education.

Social Sustainability

- Our school ethos recognises the importance of and is sensitive to issues surrounding gender equity.
- Our students are provided with opportunities to develop and use their skills to participate in the solving of community problems at local level.
- Our school ethos strives to prepare students for life as citizens of a global community.
- The needs of all students in recognition of differentiated physical or learning abilities, are taken into consideration and accommodated.

Economic Sustainability

- A non-competitive ethos of co-operation and sharing of resources is modelled in our school's allocation of its resources.
- Students are involved in the decision-making process on resource allocation within our school. We have many student committees such as Student Council, Green Schools, Active Schools.
- Students are provided with opportunities to learn small business skills. We run a yearly Craft Fair at Christmas and children make decorations from recycled materials and sell these at our annual Christmas Craft Fair Market.
- Our school's fund-raising activities reflect and actively demonstrate ethical and sustainable principles.
- Our school buildings are maintained to a high standard, with best practise in sustainability in mind.
- Our school educates on, and promotes the principles of, a circular economy

Cultural Sustainability

- Our school ethos aims to foster students' self-esteem, along with a mutual regard and respect for fellow students, and positive social interaction and relationships.
- Our school ethos, in tandem with the curriculum, strives to prepare students for life in an increasingly multicultural society.

- Our school demonstrates a commitment to community engagement and encourages the community's involvement with the school.
- Our school has an active role in supporting cultural diversity both within the school itself, and in the wider school community.

Goals

Our School is aiming to have a school Polytunnel and grow fruits and vegetables from seed. It is our goal to teach all children about food nutrition in line with the food pyramid.

Implementation and review

This Statement was implemented in December 2025. To ensure our school strives to improve its work within sustainability and climate action, the Statement will be reviewed every 3 years.