



WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION POLICY

At Woodbridge High School we believe it is imperative for the school community to be aware and understand the effects of their behaviour towards the environment in which they live, work and relax. In order to do this, we need to take responsibility for our own actions and to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live. This is led by our sustainability lead within the beyond excellence team, Ms Sanderson, Ms Jamieson and Mr Eva-Griffiths (Maternity until January 2026) otherwise Ms Tabb.

We are working towards:

- reducing the amount of materials we use and waste we produce
- re-using materials wherever possible
- restoring what is damaged
- respecting our neighbours and our environment
- being a leader in the educational field regarding the running of a sustainable school

ENERGY:

- We will switch off lights, computers and interactive whiteboards when they are not in use
- We will keep outside doors shut in cold weather
- We will make sure we turn off taps when they are no longer needed
- We will audit the amount of energy used per building
- We will use an ESCO to help design and implement energy saving procedures across the school
- Site: We will have solar panels installed by end of 2026
- Site: We will expect the canteen to use electricity (rather than gas) where possible and when replacing appliances

PAPER:

We will reduce the amount of paper we use in our classrooms and offices by:

- Ensuring there is a paper recycling bin in all classrooms, offices and reprographic areas and that they are used correctly
- Writing and printing on both sides of paper whenever possible
- Using discarded paper for jottings and drawings
- Out of date documents, except those with confidential information, to be recycled
- Send information electronically whenever possible
- Only print documents from the computer when it is absolutely necessary
- Print teaching and learning resources sparingly and more than one to a page where possible
- Display paper will be taken down carefully and re-used whenever possible
- Cleaners to empty all recycling bins into the large recycling bin situated in the school grounds
- Climate Crisis Committee to continue research into sustainable paper brands to use on a school- wide basis

TRANSPORT:

- We annually update our School Travel Plan and seek to reduce traffic congestion in and around the school site.
- We will liaise with the council regarding road closures during peak drop-off and collection times
- We will continue to promote walking to school and safe use of pavements and roads.
- We will encourage staff to share transport where possible, including when going on courses,

etc.

- We will look to offset our carbon footprint from school trips
- Catering company to consider food miles of the produce offered in the canteen.

PLASTIC:

- Aim for zero use of single use plastic offered by the school (including plastic cups and cutlery offered during meetings and events) in line with national plastic reduction targets
- Encourage the use of reusable water bottles by students and staff
- Catering to continue the use of *Vegeware* (made from trees, corn and sugarcane) and to further research about the decomposing
- Ensure that there is adequate and easily accessible plastic recycling points around the school site (classrooms and outside)

FOOD & DRINK:

- Catering to monitor levels of food waste and to adapt catering accordingly
- Food waste from students to be minimised through education awareness and learning to dispose of food correctly
- Introduce composting bins in Food Technology classrooms
- To offer quality vegetarian and vegan options to minimise the school's carbon footprint
- We will install more water fountains and make sure that they are appropriately maintained
- Climate Crisis Committee will continue research into the provision of reusable bottles for all Students

GREENING AND GARDENING:

- Gardening waste will be put into the school composting bins
- When choosing plants and trees to make sure they are appropriate for the local area
- Greening of the school site including a wildlife area, meadow field and trees
- Meadow field will be allowed to grow naturally (mound in between Roding and the astro turf)
- We will include wildlife sanctuary areas across the site including bird boxes, bat boxes and log Shelters
- Bee-keeping to be installed and maintained by the community
- We will maintain the tree pits adopted from the council on St Barnabas and Mallards Road
- Frequent maintenance of the school allotment
- Review and start to implement National Education Nature Park initiative by the end of 2026.

CLEANING:

- We will consider the products used around school for cleaning - natural, eco-friendly solutions with awareness of the positive impact on our health

REUSING OF EQUIPMENT:

- We will endeavour to reuse and recycle donated materials as appropriate
- Outdated or unwanted equipment (including uniform and clothes) will be offered to others who might have a use for it

BANKING:

- Switch to using ethical and eco-friendly banking (electronic banking is now in place)

UNIFORM & CLOTHING:

- Uniform and other items of clothing in good condition will be collected, washed and used by other students (as administered by the school office)
- We will look to create a school-wide uniform recycling scheme
- We will offer a sustainable option for uniform to families
- We will be aware of introducing further items of required uniform (including daily uniform, PE kits, school trip jumpers, etc.)

RECYCLING:

At Woodbridge, we recycle a range of materials on a regular basis:

- Paper, magazines and thin card are collected in bins designated for recycling across the school premises. These are then put into a large bin designated for recycling, sited in the school grounds, and collected by Local Authority
- Ink and toner cartridges are collected by the ICT technicians and recycled appropriately
- Plastic bottle recycling bins to be placed at multiple locations around the school (inside and outside)
- Pen and stationary recycling bins to be placed in each building for the use of staff and students
- To introduce designated recycling bins for thicker cardboards such as corrugated card

CURRICULUM:

- Departmental reviews on how climate change can be incorporated into each subject - acknowledging that it will impact workload of some individuals
- Update lessons according to current science on the climate crisis
- Climate change lessons and sustainable living incorporated into life studies and form times to encourage sustainable everyday behaviour
- Department to ensure they include opportunities to discuss green careers.

RESTORE:

- Students are encouraged to treat all school equipment with respect
- Books and other equipment will be repaired whenever possible rather than replaced

MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT:

- The annual survey of parents, pupils and staff views will include relevant questions about how well we look after our environment
- Observations of pupils and staff around the school will be a good indication of the effectiveness of the policy

Approved by the F&GP Committee on 7th October 2025

Next Review Date: Autumn Term 2028

Reviewer: Mr Eva-Griffiths