

# Sustainability Policy for Rugby School

June 2009

## WHY?

Rugby School believes that sustainability is both an important response to the growing threat of climate change and a significant vehicle for education in the modern world. Sustainability is a part of many current subject curricula, but it also impacts upon our daily lives within our own community, as well as our relations with the wider world. Rugby School therefore believes that sustainability is an integral part of modern citizenship, which can also have a significant impact upon the school's cost of living.

Sustainability is therefore an important part of the school's profile as a progressive, broad-minded and innovative educational establishment. Both pupils and staff should be aware of, and do their utmost to limit, the impact of modern living on community and climate.

## WHAT?

Sustainability 'Doorways':

### 1. FOOD & DRINK

Rugby School believes that, wherever possible within budgetary constraints, food should be healthy and ethically-sourced, that pupils should understand the origins of their food, and that the reduction and composting of food waste should be achieved across the campus. Structures should encourage best use of land to facilitate home produce for both provision and educational purposes.

### 2. ENERGY & WATER

Awareness campaigns and good practice should aim to keep energy and water use to an efficient minimum. Technology is a significant facilitator of this aspect; modernisation and efficiency of technology across the Estate is thus an on-going priority. The School should also ensure new buildings or refurbishments are planned and built and occupied to ensure the greatest energy and water efficiency and lowest carbon emissions

### 3. TRAVEL & TRAFFIC

Pupil safety and climate impact demand that cars should not be used around the campus unless absolutely necessary. Teachers, pupils and parents should be encouraged to share vehicles or use public transport if at all possible. **The school would very much like to encourage parents' initiatives in developing shared journeys at times such as leave-outs or exeat: in the past parents have organised minibuses to go along main transport arteries. This seems a very worthwhile ambition with which to persist.**

#### 4. PURCHASING & WASTE

The School believes that, where practicable, environmentally ethical and local goods and services be used and that all rubbish, including electrical goods, be recycled. All departments have responsibility for 'reducing and reusing', as well as for proper provision and use of recycling facilities. The school should provide training for both staff and pupils in what this means. IT should be used wherever possible to minimise environmental impact.

#### 5. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Sustainable building best practice should underpin all management and development of the School Estate ensuring sustainable construction, efficiency in resource use and respect for the physical and natural setting.

#### 6. LOCAL AND GLOBAL WELL-BEING

The School should encourage partnerships with the local community and engagement with the wider world, using both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities and speakers as the vehicle for a responsible international outlook.

#### **HOW & WHO?**

The school's Green Club (consisting of members of the VIth form) and Green Committee (senior management, staff, pupils and governors) will be responsible both for advancing specific campaigns within the school and monitoring progress. Houses will appoint 'Green VIths', while Departments will have Green representatives to keep the agenda moving forward. The Estates Dept. will be responsible for data collection and feeding it to the Green Committee. The Green Club's website, as well as the school intranet, will be key vehicles for disseminating campaign and other information.

#### **MONITORING**

Dr Muston (JDM), as the school's sustainability representative, and Mrs Robinson (JR), the Estates Bursar, will report to SMT / The Bursar on sustainability issues. School publications will contain regular updates on progress.

JD MUSTON  
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