

Our Sustainability Statement

At Greenvale, we are keen to promote and raise awareness amongst our community around the challenges the world faces with regards to climate change. Our school value of Responsibility helps children to understand that we all have an important role to play in creating an environment for the future which places sustainability at its core.

In Spring 2022, a new Sustainability Policy was created and approved by the governing body. Within this the school has three key priorities:

- To reduce the school's reliance upon single use plastics.
- To introduce the concept of rubbish-free lunches and reduce the amount of litter created.
- To reintroduce the school gardening club at Greenvale.

The school also benefits from a community second-hand bookshop and second-hand clothes bank which is located on our site.

Sustainability in our Curriculum

To raise the profile of sustainability within our curriculum, each topic has a specific 'Green at Greenvale' curriculum focus attached to it. For example, in our Earth is an Island topic, a lesson is dedicated to children exploring the impact of tourism on different locations around the world.

Whilst some topics may lend themselves to sustainability, in other subjects, links may not be as obvious and it is important these are not forced. Instead, we believe it important to highlight sensible choices that children can make in order to reduce any negative impact that they may have on the environment. This may be seen in a variety of ways, including (but not limited to):

- Ensuring that children develop good habits such as maximising the use of space in books.
- During lessons, teachers highlight the importance of not wasting materials and only using what is needed.
- The re-use of materials such as plastic pots for water / paint as opposed to purchasing new equipment.
- Ensuring that children treat equipment with care and respect in order to maximise its life expectancy.
- Active lifestyles are promoted; for example, children are encouraged to walk or scoot to school. Children are also encouraged to take part in after school clubs which help to promote healthy lifestyles.
- The school has its own Forest School on-site which promotes the use of natural resources during lessons.
- The ARC Centre, based on site at Greenvale, is used by classes both at Greenvale and beyond. Children learn first-hand about animals and the importance of creating a sustainable environment for the animals to thrive.

School Procurement

Important to note is that the school will also give special consideration when procuring equipment. The school are signed up to Business To Schools <https://www.business2schools.com/> which means that money can be saved on purchasing new furniture. Items such as paper is recycled and the school will always consider sustainability when making any other purchases on behalf of the school.

