



St. Nicolas' CE Combined School Taplow

Rectory Road, Taplow, Bucks SL6 0ET

Tel: 01628 603759

E Mail: schooloffice@stnicolastaplow.com

Website: www.stnicolastaplow.com

Headteacher: Ms R Holmes

St Nicolas' CE Combined School Taplow Environmental Sustainability Statement

We are committed to a sustainable future and to improving the social and environmental well-being of the whole school community. We believe in a whole school approach to adopting all the proven green practices that we are able to. Our school Eco Council is at the heart of this, the pupils discuss the school site, how we function on a day to day basis and what measures they feel could be brought in to effect change and make a process more sustainable. These ideas are taken to the SLT in order to be analysed, costed and brought online if found to be beneficial.

The school endeavours to follow the National Association of Environmental Education four 'C's approach to sustainability:

Culture

We will strive to engender a culture within the school which has sustainability at its heart, led by the Eco Council and followed by all. The Governing board and SLT hold sustainability and green practices at the forefront of all strategic decisions and through the curriculum endeavour to further educate the school and wider local community.

Campus

The single biggest impact the school has on the environment and future sustainability is through the use of its school buildings and grounds. The school is committed to renewable energy installation. To date 68 solar PV panels have been installed capable of generating 28KWh of clean energy, funded from school reserves at a total cost of £28k it shows the commitment of the governing body to this endeavour. This is further reinforced by the decision to procure and install 3 Tesla Powerwall batteries which will enable excess production to be stored and used during non-peak generation periods.

The whole school lighting grid has been replaced with LED bulbs governed by both absence and presence detection systems, thereby ensuring lights are never left on. Waste and recycling is another area of development. The school has moved providers to ensure that maximum recycling is carried out, including food and that no general waste is sent to landfill, a more expensive option but one that sits well with the school ethos.

Water usage is constantly monitored and water reclamation and storage methods are being researched in order to provide captured stored water for flushing toilets within the school thus reducing the schools reliance on mains water.



Community

We are dedicated to environmental improvements that foster a sustainable future and lead to social and environmental improvements within the school community and local village community as well. We encourage walking and wheeling to school however being a remote village school we encourage park and stride so that children can walk safely for part of the journey.

Curriculum

The school is installing planting areas for the gardening club. This was first brought in for the early years area and will soon be expanded to include all year groups. The curriculum as a whole is being reviewed in order bring in more relevance and reference to sustainability. Classes visit the village 'Old Priory Gardens' to learn about nature in a forest school setting.

The school has also installed outside canopy covered areas for all classes so that children can maximise outside learning whilst using less energy at the same time.

Sustainability lead

The Academy Business Director is the nominated sustainability lead for the school.