



Name of Policy **SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

Purposes This document outlines the commitment and objectives of Macclesfield College in ensuring its sustainable development

Responsibility of / Job Title Vice Principal: Finance and Resources

Equality Assessment By Whom **Date** 03/11/2016

Version 1 **Date of next review (month & year)** Nov 2017

		Date
Approved by	Senior Manager	
	ELT	14/12/16
	Corporation	

Related policies or procedures or parent policy if applicable

Groups/bodies consulted in the development of the policy

To be published on College website YES / NO

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Introduction

This Sustainability Policy applies to all of the College's activities, products and services. All staff in the College will follow the principles of this policy and supporting guidance to assist the College in meeting its sustainability objectives. A widely accepted definition of sustainable development is Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (The Brundtland Commission 1987). The College recognises the importance of sustainable development for future generations and that its decisions and actions affect society and the economy, as well as the environment and natural resources at local, national and global levels. Our Sustainability Policy is based upon the following principles to which the College is committed to:

- Maintaining compliance with all relevant UK, European and international legislative and regulatory requirements and agreements as a minimum standard
- Reviewing all our activities and operations in order to identify, understand and evaluate all the direct and indirect environmental aspects and impacts, and prioritise action to address them
- To integrate sustainability considerations into all our business decisions
- Supporting continuous improvement by establishing sustainability performance targets that are reviewed and externally reported annually
- Ensuring that sustainable development is fully understood by staff and students and is enshrined within all aspects of planning and activities, and that they are fully committed to implementing and improving it.
- To minimise the impact on sustainability of all office and transportation activities.
- To make clients and suppliers aware of our Sustainability Policy, and encourage them to adopt sound sustainable management practices.
- To review, annually report, and to continually strive to improve our sustainability performance.

In order to implement this policy, the College has undertaken a baseline review and has determined a set of key sustainability impacts and associated objectives:

- **Energy and water:** to reduce energy and water use and establish a utilities monitoring and targeting system and to continue to explore the possibilities of less carbon intensive energy sources either through the purchase of renewable energy or through an increased use of onsite renewables.
- **Waste and natural resources:** to prevent pollution by reducing emissions and discharges and to promote the zero waste principle (rethink, reduce, reuse, recycle) in order to minimise the environmental impact of waste disposal and use of natural resources.
- **Procurement:** to develop and implement a sustainable procurement policy that integrates environmental and social issues with economic issues and that supports the use of products and services from contractors and suppliers who are in accordance with the College's Sustainability policy.
- **Education and Research for Sustainable Development:** to further encourage the teaching of and research into sustainable development at the College.
- **Transport:** to develop and implement a College wide green travel plan in order to minimise emissions arising from business travel, commuting and deliveries.

- **Construction and Refurbishment:** to incorporate the principles of sustainable development into any new build or refurbishment projects.
- **Community Involvement:** Build partnerships and take part in networks to share experience and knowledge of sustainability with the broader community and contribute to debate on sustainability issues.
- **Health, Welfare and Safety:** Promote the highest standards of health and safety for our staff, contractors and students and provide a good working environment for our employees, treating them with fairness, dignity and respect.
- **Training, awareness and communication:** Increase the awareness and understanding of sustainable development amongst staff and students through learning opportunities and training.

The College's Sustainability Policy is fully supported by the College's Senior Management Team and Governing body who have ultimate responsibility for the sustainability performance. All staff, students, visitors and relevant external stakeholders share this responsibility.

Review Date

This document is to be reviewed on the 2nd November 2017