

Environment Sustainability Policy

Our Motto

**Shine,
Achieve,
Flourish -
The SAF Way!**



Reduce
Use less,
waste less



Reuse
Give things
a second life



Respect
Protect our planet
and all living things



Inspire
Work together
for a sustainable
future

Together, we can make a difference

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Date: September 2026

Review: September 2027

1. Statement of Intent

At Sir Alexander Fleming Primary School and Nursery, we are committed to helping our pupils understand how to care for the environment. We aim to:

- Teach children about climate change and sustainability
- Encourage responsible choices in school and at home
- Reduce the school's environmental impact
- Promote respect for the local and global environment

We believe all members of our school community have a role to play in protecting the planet for future generations.

2. Legal Framework

This policy follows relevant UK laws and guidance, including:

- Climate Change Act 2008
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013
- DfE sustainability guidance

This policy works alongside other school policies such as

- Healthy Eating and Drinking Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Pupil Code of Conduct
- Parent Code of Conduct
- Travel to and from School Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Records Management Policy

3. Roles and Responsibilities

The School Will:

- Provide teaching about sustainability across the curriculum
- Work with staff, pupils, parents, governors and the community
- Promote environmentally friendly practices
- Prepare pupils for a changing world

Headteacher:

- Oversees the policy
- Ensures staff have appropriate knowledge and understand the importance of energy conservation
- Promotes energy saving and waste reduction
- Ensures safe disposal of waste

Governing Board:

- Reviews and monitors the policy
- Oversees energy use and sustainability decisions
- Ensures responsible purchasing

Staff:

- Teach sustainability topics
- Reduce energy use in classrooms
- Model good environmental behaviour

Site Manager:

- Manages waste disposal
- Monitors energy use
- Maintains school grounds

Pupils:

- Care for the environment in school and at home
- Reduce waste and save energy
- Walk or cycle where possible

4. Waste and Recycling

We will reduce waste by:

- Printing only when necessary
- Writing and printing on both sides of paper
- Using emails, using the school's website and parent text messaging procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste
- Reusing materials where possible
- Recycling paper, plastics, and food waste
- Encouraging reusable water bottles
- Clearly labelled bins will be available throughout the school.
- Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.

5. Electrical Equipment (WEEE)

We safely recycle electrical items such as:

- Computers, laptops and monitors
- Printers and projectors
- Data will be securely removed before disposal.

We will raise awareness of safe recycling through school activities.

6. Littering

The school understands that, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, littering is a criminal offence. It also understands that fines may be incurred where individuals deliberately litter the premises. Littering is when a person throws down, drops or otherwise deposits any litter and leaves it in any place open to the air. Every member of the school community has a duty to dispose of waste properly.

Specifically, individuals are responsible for:

- Putting litter in the appropriate bin, e.g. recycling bins.

- Using resources thoughtfully.
- Reusing resources where possible.
- Assisting the site manager and eco committee with the cleanliness of the premises.

The school will appoint an eco committee consisting of staff members and pupils, who are responsible for:

- Promoting awareness of anti-littering throughout the school.
- Monitoring the school's anti-littering procedures.
- Listening and responding to questions from the school committee.
- Organising and recruiting volunteers for litter picking groups.

Teachers will encourage pupils to partake in weekly litter picking around the school grounds as well as a monthly litter pick in the local area. Litter picking volunteers will be in groups no larger than 10 and will be accompanied by a member of staff at all times.

- To mitigate risks of littering, the school will implement the following procedures: Designated eating areas – pupils and staff will only be permitted to eat in these areas to prevent unwanted litter.
- Waste disposal – bins will be provided throughout the school, with additional bins provided in eating areas, to ensure sufficient availability for waste disposal.

The school will raise awareness of anti-littering amongst pupils and staff through dedicated assemblies, PSHE lessons, staff training days and additional resources, such as leaflets and posters.

Any individual found littering will be disciplined in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy. Any staff found to be littering will be disciplined in accordance with the school's Staff Code of Conduct. Cases of littering by parents or visitors will be handled in accordance with the relevant code of conduct, and the individual may be barred from the premises. Any individual known to have littered the premises will be required to dispose of the litter correctly.

7. Transport

Pupils and staff will be encouraged to walk or cycle to school, where possible. The school will organise a 'walking bus', where pupils will be asked to convene at a specified location and then walk to school, accompanied by teachers. The

benefits of daily exercise, such as walking to school, when possible, will be promoted throughout the school.

The school will encourage teachers and other members of staff to car share whenever possible, for example, when travelling to external training days.

The school will produce informative material, such as posters and leaflets, regarding the impact of the carbon emissions produced by personal vehicles and public transport on the environment, which will be displayed and distributed around the school.

The school will have suitable and safe storage for staff and pupils to store bicycles.

The school will recognise that there are risks involved when individuals choose to walk or cycle to school; therefore, road safety lessons will be organised in PSHE. For those pupils and staff members who are unable to walk or cycle to school, the school will organise more sustainable modes of transport whenever possible – such as organising a school bus rather than using personal vehicles.

8. School Grounds and Energy Use

We will:

The governing board and the site manager will monitor the consumption of energy within the school, recognising where the school is wasting energy and implementing measures to reduce energy consumption, e.g. introducing motion sensitive lights.

Energy saving lightbulbs will be used throughout the school. The governing board will monitor heating within the school, assessing whether it is at an appropriate temperature and frequency and adjusting it accordingly.

When new buildings or refurbishments are being planned, the school will always consider any environmental impacts and the governing board will consult an expert.

9. Healthy Living

The school will promote an ethos of environmental understanding. Pupils will be taught to understand that their actions have a direct impact upon the environment.

The school will discourage environmental indifference and promote the importance of understanding the impact that each individual has on the environment.

The school will encourage staff and pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, as healthy lifestyles often lead to a sustainable lifestyle, for example, walking instead of driving.

The school will ensure pupils get at least 60 minutes of moderate exercise a day, in line with NHS recommendations.

10. Sustainable Food

We will:

- Teach pupils where food comes from
- Grow fruits or vegetables where possible
- Use seasonal and locally sourced food
- Promote sustainable farming and fishing

11. Energy Saving

We will reduce energy use by:

- Switching off lights when they're not in use.
- Keeping doors and windows shut in cold weather and installing draught excluders so that warm air is retained.
- Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example, computers, projectors, and interactive white boards, when they're not in use. Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly.
- Conserving water by installing systems that reduce waste such as cistern dams and flow restrictors.
- Insulating hot water pipes to reduce water waste when running a tap, as well as reducing the likelihood of frozen pipes in winter.
- Ensuring all systems work efficiently, and any breakages or leaks are resolved as a matter of high priority by the site manager.
- Auditing the amount of energy used each term.
- Implementing reward systems for staff and pupils who comply with the school's energy saving ethos – to raise awareness and prevent wasteful energy usage.

- Upgrading the school's heating system to a modern, more efficient system, including a smart meter, to reduce emissions.
- Switching to high efficiency combined heat and power (CHP) (HE CHP) or CHP based on renewable energy sources, or gas-fired CHP only.
- Increasing the share of electricity from renewable energy sources or biomass.
- Displaying information around the school and in classrooms to ensure that pupils understand the importance of switching off lights, computers and taps when they're not in use.
- Monitoring the environmental sustainability of suppliers and adjusting procurement arrangements accordingly.
- Making all members of the school's community aware of the link between energy use and financial costs.
- Appointing an individual, e.g. the site manager, to ensure that these measures are carried out.

The school will display our Display Energy Certificate in plain sight in the school foyer.

We will also promote awareness across the school.

12. Reducing Carbon Emissions

We aim to lower our carbon footprint by:

- Encouraging sustainable travel
- Using renewable energy where possible
- Reducing waste
- Buying locally sourced products

13. Sustainable Purchasing

We will make responsible purchasing choices by:

- Buying energy-efficient and recyclable products
- Choosing local suppliers when possible
- Avoiding unnecessary purchases

This applies to paper, food, equipment, furniture, and cleaning products.

14. Curriculum

Environmental sustainability will be taught across subjects:

- **Science:** habitats, climate change, ecosystems
- **Geography:** energy, environment, sustainability
- **English:** nature writing and discussion

15. Monitoring and Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually
- Staff will be informed of any updates
- All staff must follow this policy

Next review: September 2027