Environmental and Sustainability Policy

This policy is the responsibility of the Director

Last review: August 2023

Next review: August 2024

Overview

RobocodeUK (the Company) is committed to being a sustainable and environmentally friendly. We aim to reduce our carbon footprint and to implement and pursue practices which will help to foster an awareness and understanding of the environment in both students and staff.

The Company has a duty to prepare future generations with the knowledge and skills to manage the world's resources wisely. Students are expected to demonstrate an active interest in and concern for all-natural environments and we hope to encourage each student to recognise their role in tending to the future of the planet.

The way the Company environment is managed and maintained should provide an example to students of how to respect and care for the environment. Wherever possible students and staff should be encouraged and expected to adopt sustainable practices.

Education for sustainable development should give students a greater understanding of both natural and human systems through a range of immediate environmental experiences that engage their senses, emotions and thinking. It should enable the Company community to develop a life ethic that values all people and the natural environment. Ultimately it should ensure that each student understands and respects their environment, both inside and outside of Company.

Specific Policy Aims

1. To minimise the procurement and use of non-renewable and environmentally unfriendly resourcesand encourage recycling throughout the whole Company.
2. To raise awareness to students and staff about key environmental issues and by doing so encourage them to take an active role in environmental projects.
3. To develop relationships with external organisations to promote environmentally friendly behaviour both within and outside of Company.

Inside the Company buildings

Paper

- Staff are encouraged to use electronic devices or online resources where possible instead of paper.
- Staff are asked to keep their written documents to one or two sides of A4 wherever possible.
- Staff are asked to use double-sided photocopying wherever possible.
- Staff and students are asked to use the paper bins to recycle all paper.
- Staff and students are asked to ensure that both sides of paper are used before it is recycled. To this end, each classroom should contain a scrap paper box.
- Staff and students are asked not to print documents unless it is necessary.
- Staff, students, and parents are asked to use e-mail wherever possible avoiding copying paper, to colleagues, students or parents.
- Paper use is monitored via a monthly print management report.

Computers

- Staff and students are asked to ensure that all computers, screens, printers, and projectors are turned off after their last use of the day. Teacher/students in period 6 have a responsibility to ensure that the computer in their classroom is switched off.
- Non-essential computers will be automatically shut down at 9pm.

Lighting

- Staff and students are asked to turn off lights whenever they are not being used.
- Where possible LED and/or movement sensitive lights will be installed.

Water

- Establish and raise awareness of simple actions that can cut down on water use substantially.

Energy

- Energy consumption to be monitored.
- Make all members of the Company community aware of the link between energy use and financial cost.
- Identify and implement effective energy saving measures where possible and reasonably practicable (we use smart plugs for example).
- Establish and show that simple low- or no-cost measures to conserve energy can be effective and bring about significant savings.
- Consider using alternative sources of energy such as solar power.

Recycling

- Recycling to be promoted through assemblies, and form times.
- Paper is to be collected in recycling boxes in each classroom.

- Cartridges from computer ink will be placed in a labelled bin and collected for recycling.
- Recycling provision to be included in staff room.
- Encourage students to reduce their consumption of plastic wrapped snacks in preference for biodegradable/ compostable snack packaging.

Books and Equipment

- Outdated or unwanted equipment will be offered to others who might have a use for it via charities.
- Redundant computer equipment will be recycled by an authorised contractor, or alternatively, disposed of.

Outside of the Company buildings and in the wider community

Transport

- The Company will raise awareness about the impact of transport has on the environment and people's health.
- Develop a robust travel plan which includes realistic and achievable goals.
- Encourage students and staff to commute to Company using environmentally friendly methods (walking, cycling, and catching the train).
- Provide adequate and safe facilities for students and staff cycling and walking to Company (Company is part of the cycle scheme).
- We will encourage staff to use public transport wherever possible to attend conferences/courses.

Litter

- All members of the Company community should be involved in helping to prevent and clear litter from the Company grounds.
- Students should regard litter clearing as a positive environmental action, which will also help foster a sense of personal pride and responsibility in students.

Company grounds

- The Company should use the Company grounds as a source of teaching and learning opportunities for students.