

# Elmsett C. of E. V.C.P. School

## Environmental Education Policy

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## Document Control

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

As part of the school ethos “pupils are actively encouraged to walk or cycle to school accompanied by parents as part of a healthy sustainable lifestyle, supported through the Eco status of the school. In partnership with parents and the local community, we aim to foster a sense of pride and care for our environment and village.”

## **2. AIMS**

To have an awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment in which they live, work and relax.

To create good habits in order to:-

- Reduce the amount of materials and energy we use
- Reduce the amount of waste we produce, at school and at home
- To make children aware of the benefits of re-using and/or recycling materials wherever possible
- To respect the environment
- To be aware of and participate in local and national recycling schemes
- To promote an awareness in the wider community, of the need for preserving non-renewable resources, for future generations.
- To create a litter free environment, not only in the school grounds, but also in the local community.

## **3. REDUCE**

### **Energy**

- We switch off lights/ computers when they are not in use.
- We keep outside doors shut in cold weather.
- We make sure we turn off taps when they are no longer needed.
- The eco-council audit the amount of energy used.
- The eco-council appoint class monitors to ensure these recommendations are carried out.
- We turn radiators down when rooms are unoccupied

### **Paper**

We try to reduce the amount of paper we use in school by:-

- Writing and printing on both side of the paper whenever possible.
- Filing photocopies for use at a later date.
- Sending information electronically whenever possible
- Each class has a waste paper box to re-cycle paper. These are emptied by the Eco Council.
- We use paper towels made from recycled paper.

- Staff use mini hand towels rather than paper towels.
- We use loo paper made from recycled materials.
- The office staff reuse envelopes, whenever possible.

## **Transport**

- We have an unofficial walking bus.
- We participate in the bikeability scheme to encourage safe cycling.
- We provide cycle racks to encourage pupils to walk to school.
- Staff share transport, if possible, when going on courses etc.

## **4. RE-USE**

### **Fruit**

FS and KS1 have fruit at morning playtime. In addition, many children bring their own fruit. The remains of the fruit is composted although some of it goes in the wormery. The compost and worm extract is used on the school garden.

### **Gardening**

Gardening waste is also composted.

## **5. RECYCLE**

The school has a recycling bank for use by the whole community. There are collection bins for:

- Paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, aluminium foil and cans, spectacles, stamps, CD's, books, clothing and shoes, ink cartridges and beverage cartons.
- At Christmas we also collect Christmas cards for recycling.
- Equipment and Uniform
- Outdated or unwanted equipment is donated to others who might have a use for it.
- Uniform in good condition, including football boots and trainers, is collected and sold or given to children.
- The eco-council continues to monitor our recycling scheme and are always watching out for ways to improve our facilities
- Restore
- Habitats in and around the school environment are used to enhance the children's learning. Children return all living creatures studied to their original habitat.

The school works closely with EGGs, Elmsett Greenlife Grove Scheme, to plant and look after trees in the new community wood.

The children raise and plant wild flowers for the wood.

They help to construct habitats like log piles for animals and birds, and recently build a mini-beast hotel.

The school has a wildlife area.

Each class has nest boxes to watch and bird feeding stations outside the classroom.

The FS / KS1 outside area has insect homes.

## **6. RESPECT**

At Elmsett we respect one another, the environment and all living creatures.