



## **Sustainability and Environmental Policy**

---

### **1.0 Our Policy**

Bedford College's policy is to strengthen local economic well-being by equipping students with the right skills and values to help build strong communities while respecting people and protecting the environment. This is consistent with our core values.

- 1.1 This document sets out Bedford College's aims to facilitate sustainable development. The College is committed to implementing actions to deliver the objectives set out below that will promote and embed sustainable development in all aspects of the College's activities.
- 1.2 The policy supports the College's Strategic Plan, and we have developed 9 key objectives, set out in section 4.3.

### **2.0 Scope**

- 2.1 The scope of this policy will cover all of the policies, procedures and processes of the College.

### **3.0 Key Principles**

- 3.1 This policy will be implemented in a manner that supports four key sustainability pillars that embody the College;
  - Leadership: Maintain position as an FE and Skills sector leader in Sustainability and support sector wide developments.
  - Organisational Capacity: Ensure that College business is conducted in a manner that improves energy and resource efficiency, seeking to eliminate waste.
  - Learning: Embed Sustainable Development into all curriculum disciplines.
  - Community: Develop and maintain appropriate local and regional partnerships to maximise benefits to the communities we serve.

### **4.0 Objectives**

- 4.1 This policy will be implemented in accordance with all existing and emerging legislation.
- 4.2 The College's Sustainability Policy shows a commitment to the principles of sustainability; minimising the adverse impact of its activities on the environment whilst supporting the economic and social developments of the College.
- 4.3 Bedford College will achieve the ISO14001 standard and use this as a framework for our activity in this area. We have set ourselves 9 objectives that will ensure our policy is implemented, and which will demonstrate a high level commitment to continual improvement. The objectives, and the Directors taking



## Sustainability and Environmental Policy

---

lead responsibility in determining targets and measures, are set out below:

1. Ensuring that the College's curriculum and operations have a direct beneficial impact on the communities we serve (All Directors)
2. Establishing effective systems and strategies to implement the actions listed in the Carbon Management Plan, aiming to exceed the target of 35% reduction in the College's carbon emissions by September 2017 based on 2009-10 levels (Director of Sustainability).
3. Establishing effective strategies for sustainable energy, resource, and water consumption, and prevention of pollution. (Director of Sustainability)
4. Establishing an accommodation plan to ensure better utilisation of the College's buildings (All Directors).
5. Maximising the benefits of the College's facilities and services on the health and wellbeing of students and staff, complying with all applicable legal requirements relating to environmental aspects (All Directors)
6. Developing and implementing sustainable procurement and travel strategies (Director of Sustainability)
7. Implementing strategies to enhance biodiversity within the College's estates (Director of Sustainability)
8. Organising a programme of CPD to improve the understanding and capability of all staff to embed sustainability into their job roles and behaviours, with the expectation that they will lead by example (Director of Sustainability)
9. Providing evidence of education for sustainability in all curriculum areas, to be identified and highlighted through the College's internal quality improvement processes (Teaching Directors)

### 5.0 Monitoring and Review

- 5.1 This Policy has been agreed by the Bedford College Executive at its meeting on 05 February 2013 and is endorsed by the College Corporation. It will be reviewed in three-yearly intervals.
- 5.2 The internal monitoring of the implementation of this policy will be the responsibility of the Director of Sustainability who will produce regular progress reports to the Executive Team.
- 5.3 The Director of Sustainability will be responsible for ensuring that this policy, and its associated processes and procedures, remain appropriate and comply with changes in legislation.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ 

Date: March 1st, 2013

Ian Pryce  
Bedford College Principal and Chief Executive