



Climate Action Plan 2023-2024

OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Introduction

This Climate Action Plan has been developed in conjunction with Cheltenham College's Sustainability Strategy. Whilst the strategy outlines our overarching vision, underlying principles and approaches and long-term aims, this action plan provides a more detailed scope of our short and medium-term objectives and agreed specific actions for the 2023-2024 academic year.

It has been specifically informed by the Sustainability Working Group (SWG), consisting of representative staff from across The Prep and College, and the senior school Sustainability Prefects.

Action areas of work – objectives and priority actions

Our overarching aim this year will be to build on the foundation work of the last 18 months, since we renewed our focus on sustainability with dedicated staffing and resource. We will shift our focus from information gathering, data capture and strategic planning towards direct action and implementing achievable projects with tangible positive effects for our school community. Additionally, we will continue to deliver some of our key long-term projects, particularly in the areas of waste management and energy reduction.

We will continue to emphasise the importance of education and engagement initiatives for our pupils, as well as sharing our values and progress with all stakeholders.

Considering these objectives, the following have been identified as priority actions for this academic year:

Operational projects

- Complete our submission for the Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) Phase III, and make use of the review findings to guide our energy management strategy.
- Continue to improve our capture and analysis processes for key consumption metrics, with a particular view to implement electricity sub-metering, and utilise this data to facilitate pupil engagement competitions.
- Continue to roll out our new recycling and waste management infrastructure across College Boarding Houses and critical communal areas.
- Identify further opportunities to reduce our consumption of disposables.
- Quantify our paper consumption and printing statistics, and research the sustainability credentials of our products and suppliers.

- Capture and share the ecological and biodiversity highlights of our gardens, supporting a greater connection with, and appreciation of, our natural environment.
- Improve the experience of The Prep and Sports Centre car parks for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Support our Catering partner in their initiatives to reduce food waste and to capture the carbon footprint of dishes.

Education and engagement initiatives

- Redevelop the Sustainability Squad at The Prep, building on its initial success, to provide engaging activities for younger pupils and leadership opportunities for older year groups in a model that enables staff and pupils to dedicate sufficient time to sustainability projects.
- Re-establish a College eco-soc.
- Develop opportunities to integrate sustainability in co-curricular and volunteering programmes.
- Build on the success of the Sustainability Newsletter and incorporate pupil contributions.
- Deliver engagement events, talks and workshops for pupils:
 - Host a 'Green Week' in the Autumn Term to raise awareness of sustainability issues.
 - Hold a mufti day for pupils to wear the colours of the Earth, with donations for a sustainability charity.
 - Run a 'Sustainability Cup' inter-house competition.
 - Provide regular displays of key facts and statistics in prominent areas.

Values and vision

- Continue to raise the profile of our activity and ensure that our values are projected at all levels, with a particular drive from those in leadership positions.
- Develop sustainable procurement criteria for our suppliers.

Community and collaboration

- Work closely with our new Sustainability Prefects, empowering them to drive forward positive change and lead the education and engagement of their peers.
- Develop content for the College website, recognising the positive marketing opportunities of our sustainability work.
- Share our progress with Prep and College parents and plan events that they can be involved in
- Work with the Health Centre to highlight the connections between sustainable living, health and wellbeing.
- Develop opportunities to collaborate on sustainability projects with our international school partners.
- Connect with members our OC/OJ network.