



Sustainability Policy

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ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

1. Thomas Tallis School Plan 2020-23 has five aims.

1	A powerful curriculum
2	The best teachers
3	Great learning and progress
4	Excellent personal development
5	A model for a better world

As part of aim 5 Thomas Tallis School has adopted the *Framework for Ethical Leadership in Education*. This means that we try to behave in a principled and correct manner in everything we do. Schools and colleges serve children and young people and help them grow into fulfilled and valued citizens. As role models for the young, how we behave as leaders is as important as what we do. We therefore behave with **selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership**. We demonstrate **trust, wisdom, kindness, justice, service, courage and optimism**.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Environmental awareness and sustainability have been a national and international issue for many years. Thomas Tallis is conscious of its part to play in the education awareness and changes to current practice required to help bring about positive sustainable responses to global issues. This is reflected in Tallis' strategic plan as Sustainability forms part of the "A model for a better world" strand.
- 1.2. Tallis recognises its responsibility to embed, as far as possible, the principles set out in the DfE's Sustainability and climate change strategy (2022). In addition to this, Tallis has declared a signed up to the Royal Borough of Greenwich's Climate Emergency Network and declared a Climate Emergency.

2. Aims

- 2.1. Sustainability is a process of ensuring the wise use of all resources within a framework in which environmental, social and economic factors are integrated and balanced. It means we will meet the present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We aim to educate pupils, staff, parents and carers about the importance of good sustainability practices to the benefit of the planet and each of us.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1. All staff are encouraged to act as responsible global citizens and contribute towards reducing energy consumption and waste production. The issues around climate change affect the whole curriculum. Pupils of all ages are taught about sustainability throughout the curriculum both explicitly particular in science, geography, PSHE and RE, as well as through environmental projects in art and design, food technology and much more.
- 3.2. As well as through the National Curriculum subjects many extra-curricular activities within our schools focus upon key sustainability goals and pupils are encouraged and expected to play an active part in discussions, community action projects and involve themselves as responsible citizens of the future. Pupils need to understand the issues from educational and social perspectives in the interests of everyone's future.
- 3.3. Sustainability committee members will lead and champion this within the school and:
 - agree and set clearly defined sustainable development objectives and targets.
 - engage pupils and staff in a wide understanding of the impact of our individual actions on the environment locally, nationally and internationally.
 - encourage behavioural changes, increase participation and communication across all users.
 - minimise the adverse impacts of our school on the environment.
 - develop a responsible use of energy throughout the school, improving energy efficiency and giving preference to renewable energy when possible.
 - wherever possible use environmentally friendly products and practices and avoid the use of environmentally damaging products.
 - encourage the development of our biodiversity within our school grounds.
 - develop a sustainable transport policy for journeys to and from school.

1. Sustainability Focuses 2023-2024

1.1. Energy

Work with FM provider to understand how the school community can contribute to reducing energy consumption by optimising energy efficiency.

Consult with FM provider and Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to investigate feasibility of renewable energy in school, whether purchased or self-generated i.e., solar panels.

1.2. Global Citizenship

Continue the work started by the Earth Ambassadors.

Encourage our pupils to take their ideas home and share them with their family and friends and the wider community, by sharing Earth Ambassadors' ethos with the wider community.

Take part in national and international programmes to support and enhance the work of the Earth Ambassadors.

1.3. School Grounds & Biodiversity

Ensure that school grounds are maintained to a high standard and are litter free.

Review as part of the contractor selection process, the contractor's approach to sustainability, their impact on the environment and their engagement with wider school activities (work placements, apprenticeships, support for events, activities or initiatives etc.).

Consider and discuss with contractors the sustainability issues throughout the planning, design and construction of all capital and other projects.

Prevent pollution and contamination of land and water and continually improve our environmental performance.

The Garden Co-ordinator will manage and improve the biodiversity value of the school site, by encouraging the use of the outdoors to teach and learn about biodiversity.

1.4. Transport

Promote car-sharing and public transport to and from school to pupils, parents and staff.

Promote Active Travel – walking and cycling - encourage the use of bikes by promoting safe cycling and secure cycle storage and safe crossing points.

Consult with SPV to investigate possibility of fitting charging points for electric vehicles.

Consider adopting carbon offsetting for medium and long-haul school travel wherever possible.

1.5. Waste Management

Maintain respect for natural resources by teaching and encouraging the most efficient use of materials and by using renewable, recycled and recyclable products wherever possible.

Encourage staff, pupils and parents to recycle as much waste as possible, in school and at home.

Facilitate recycling in school by activities such as mobile phone collection points, recycling print cartridges, etc.

Reduce production of waste and ensure it is disposed of appropriately.

1.6. Water & Marine life

Work with the FM provider to set targets for the school to reduce water consumption by optimising water efficiency.

Procure sustainably sourced fish via our caterers.

1.7. Procurement & Resources

Ensure that we pursue a policy of best practice, local purchasing and the use of environmentally friendly products, where possible.

Consider and discuss with suppliers the environmental impact of purchases, for example feedback and encourage better packaging.

Be efficient in the use of resources.

Avoid single use plastics.

1.8. Healthy Living

Aim to offer pupils the opportunity to become involved in growing fruit and vegetables under the supervision of the Garden Co-ordinator and developing food technology skills through the DT department.

Maintain the school's status as a Fair Achiever school. This is the highest category for Fair Trade status.

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