



The
Princethorpe
Foundation

Registered number: 04177718
Charity number: 1087124



Environmental Sustainability Plan 2024 - 2029



GLOBAL WARMING

Global warming is the long-term increase in the temperature of the Earth’s surface observed since the pre-industrial period (between 1850 and 1900). This is the result of human activities such as fossil fuel burning (coal, gas and oil), which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth’s atmosphere.

WHAT IS NET ZERO?

In June 2019, the Government committed to a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared with 1990 levels. This is referred to as the net zero target.

Net zero refers to the amount of greenhouse gases – such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane or sulphur dioxide - which are removed from the atmosphere being equal to those emitted by human activity on planet Earth.

This means that any emissions of greenhouse gases would be balanced by schemes such as tree planting or capturing carbon from the atmosphere. Carbon sinks, such as forests or our oceans, absorb and store more carbon from the atmosphere than they emit. This is called ‘offsetting’ and allows businesses to operate with a clear conscience, knowing their emissions are balanced out.

WHAT IS A CARBON FOOTPRINT?

A carbon footprint is the total amount of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide and methane) which are generated by our schools’ actions. Our objective is to reduce our carbon footprint, in order to reduce global warming.

CARBON FOOTPRINTS ARE USUALLY MEASURED USING THREE ‘SCOPES’

1 ↑ SCOPE 1	2 ↑ SCOPE 2	3 ↑ SCOPE 3
Direct Emissions refers to emissions which are directly owned or controlled by a business or school, such as burning fossil fuels to heat buildings, or using fuel in company-owned vehicles, such as vans or tractors.	Indirect Emissions refers to emissions which result from the place where the energy the school has purchased has been produced, for example the electricity used to light buildings.	Indirect Emissions refers to all other emissions. In the case of schools, this refers to daily commuting of pupils and staff, food, waste, educational trips and travel for staff courses or meetings.

It’s not just schools and businesses that can strive to reduce their carbon footprint – we can all make contributions as individuals. Making more sustainable lifestyle choices can help reduce each of our carbon footprints and limit our overall environmental impact. This could mean using public transport instead of a car, limiting food waste, recycling packaging and old clothes and monitoring the carbon intensity of our homes.



The Government committed to a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.





The Princethorpe Foundation

The Princethorpe Foundation welcomes a wide range of children from all faiths and backgrounds and provides co-educational, independent day schooling with a strong Christian ethos. We support and nurture over 1,400 children from age 2 to 18 years, through Little Crackers Nursery, Crackley Hall School, Crescent School and Princethorpe College.

Princethorpe College is a Catholic, co-educational, independent senior day school for around 900 pupils aged 11 to 18 with over 200 students in the Sixth Form.

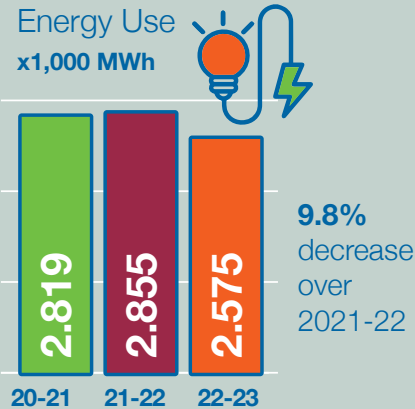
Crackley Hall School and Little Crackers Nursery is a Catholic independent co-educational preparatory day school and nursery for around 300 pupils aged 2 to 11 years, situated in Kenilworth.

Crescent School is an independent co-educational preparatory day school for around 190 pupils aged 4 to 11 years, situated in Bilton, Rugby.



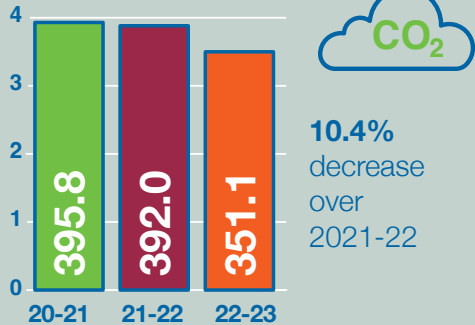
1,400 Pupils

280 Staff



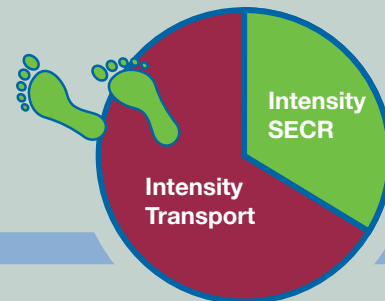
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

x100 tCO₂e

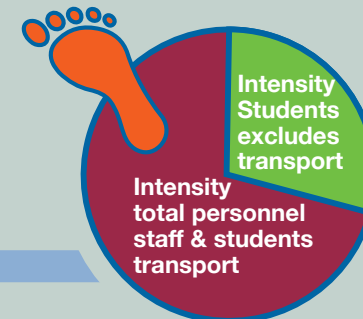


Towards Net Zero

Our ambition is to exceed government targets where we can, to become carbon neutral, whilst making sure that our environment is safe, fit for-purpose and healthy. We will reduce emissions, offset what we emit, increase biodiversity and invest further in renewable energy.



Carbon Footprint per student 0.74tCO₂e 2022-23



Carbon Footprint total 1,196tCO₂e Foundation (1,402 students) 2022-23



THE FOUNDATION'S AMBITIONS TO BECOME SUSTAINABLE

The UK government has set ambitious plans to achieve Net Zero by 2050. In parallel, the Princethorpe Foundation is taking its own steps on the journey to Net Zero. Our ambition is to exceed government targets where we can, to become carbon neutral, whilst making sure that our environment is safe, fit for-purpose and healthy. We will reduce emissions as much as we can, but we'll also offset what we emit by investing in projects which reduce CO₂ from the atmosphere by increasing biodiversity and investing further in renewable energy.

We are determined to take an active part in the solution and feel optimistic about joining the fight to build a better future for us all and our planet. We find ourselves embarking on this journey in the middle of a global energy crisis alongside a huge increase in costs. Our ambition to tackle the effects of climate change also gives us the opportunity to audit our energy usage, achieve lower operating costs and become more sustainable.

We have a central role in educating all our stakeholders about the importance of environmental sustainability. We want our school communities to clearly understand the current global issues and embrace the solutions. We also have three sites of natural beauty and keenly embrace their conservation and our heritage.

By mobilising our pupils with the requisite knowledge, skills and desire to effect positive change, we also hope that the next generation will become the creative problem-solvers of the future. In addition to our role as educators, we must lead by example and be committed to achieving outstanding environmental performance.

We are working hard to embed environmental sustainability into our thinking and actions. We have an ambitious strategy and supporting plans. Some of the changes which we will make will incur cost, but it is envisaged that short-term expenditure will lead to long-term savings alongside reducing environmental impact. Many of the quick wins, such as changing the habits of our stakeholders, turning off lights, turning down thermostats and reviewing our eating habits come at no financial cost at all, but do require a change to the way we all think.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY KEY AREAS

- 1 Our sustainable schools
- 2 Biodiversity and the Natural Environment
- 3 Carbon and Energy Management
- 4 Catering
- 5 Water
- 6 Waste and use of resources
- 7 Caring for our buildings
- 8 Transport
- 9 Buying goods and services



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Our aim is to increase sustainability awareness through activities inside and outside the classroom. Some of the existing curriculum covers these areas naturally; others have been adapted.

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1. OUR SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS

Educating, raising awareness, informing, offering choice and harnessing the power of collective responsibility and strong leadership in order to effect change.

The Eco Club (Crackley Hall and Little Crackers Nursery), *The Green Team* (Crescent School) and *Planet Princethorpe* (Princethorpe College) provide pupils with a forum to debate environmental matters, make suggestions, plan projects and enact practical changes. Through engagement with the school community, the impacts of these groups affect the broader culture and help to raise awareness, changing the behaviour of all stakeholders.

Our aim is to increase sustainability awareness through activities inside and outside the classroom. Some of the existing curriculum covers these areas naturally; others have been adapted accordingly with every department across our schools formally embedding sustainability through teaching and through co-curricular activities.

TARGETS

FOUNDATION

- Raise sustainability awareness across all three schools through the curriculum, through our pupil-led environmental teams and through other co-curricular activities
- Harness the power of collective responsibility and strong leadership to effect change
- Increase the collaboration between schools in the Foundation to share ideas, plans and successes with environmental sustainability
- Influence change in behaviour of pupils and members of staff to reduce energy consumption around school by doing things such as switching off lights in empty rooms, reducing heating costs by turning down thermostats and switching to LED lighting where possible
- Produce a student-led film which showcases environmental sustainability across all three schools

PLANET PRINCETHORPE

- Community engagement: try to get more attendees at *Planet Princethorpe* meetings and encourage more discussion in tutor groups surrounding environmental education
- *Eco-Merits*, *Princethorpe Precious Plastics*, *The Bin-Fluencer Challenge* and involvement in a yearly *Green Week*, which serve to reward small levels of positive environmental action around school.
- Waste management: increasing recycling, the sorting of waste and incentivising single cup usage for hot drinks by providing reusable cups
- Getting to school: encourage more pupils to use Princethorpe bus services to reduce carbon footprint and explore whether electric coaches are possible with providers
- Encourage the use of lift sharing
- Introduce pre-owned clothing, book and toy exchanges and sales

THE ECO CLUB (CRACKLEY HALL)

- Introduce composting and grow our own produce on an allotment in Windmill Wood
- Plant more trees on the sports fields: crab apple, rowan and field maple saplings have been planted on land adjacent to the school to commemorate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Reduce waste through more intelligent packaging, buy *Fairtrade* produce, raise awareness about choice of food and encourage pupils to use their own drinks containers
- Being prepared to have a simpler lifestyle in order to look after our planet by working towards the *Cafod Live Simply Award*
- Reduce reliance on printed media by using electronic devices and ensure that printed materials are delivered on recycled and easily compostable paper and colour copying is only used when necessary

THE GREEN TEAM (CRESCENT SCHOOL)

- Collect recycling through pupil duty teams and championing the switching off of lights
- Set up a programme of campaigns such as the *Sustainable Energy Debate* for Year 6, 'switch-off fortnight' and mini COP conferences
- Reduce waste, improving waste management and exchanging food packaging for washable glass dessert bowls
- Construction of raised beds for growing vegetables

SUCCESSSES

FOUNDATION

- Active environmental sustainability groups have been established at all three schools across the Foundation
- We have joined the *Eco Schools* scheme
- We have set up an Environmental Sustainability Advisory Board (ESAB), which has the support of the trustees, sets the overall strategic direction of the Foundation's sustainability objectives and formulates the Environmental Sustainability Plan
- Our Environmental Sustainability Action Group (ESAG), liaises with the environmental groups, invites suggestions and discussions with the pupil body, helps to realise key targets by making things happen and feeds back ideas and influences the direction of the Advisory Board. There is some common membership of both of these groups, to allow the interchange of ideas
- All academic and support departments have completed journey maps to include sustainability
- We have liaised with the estates team to discuss increasing control of individual radiators
- An Environmental Sustainability Conference is planned for all three schools for the summer term 2024

PRINCETHORPE COLLEGE

- Increased awareness of energy-saving measures such as switching off lights and equipment when not in use, and closing windows
- Sustainability-themed clubs are led by staff and Sixth Formers
- Increased *Planet Princethorpe* representatives from each tutor group, with representatives reporting back and empowering tutor groups, by getting them to participate in sustainability tasks
- Implemented a programme of two assemblies each term which champion sustainability causes
- Fortnightly meetings between the Environment Prefect and team driving sustainability
- Establishment of a Green Craft Club to increase engagement and to make sustainable gifts

- Outdoor education module for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 includes a sustainability awareness element
- An annual *Green Week* has increased awareness across a broad range of sustainability matters
- *Sustainable Christmas* stall at the Princethorpe Christmas Fair to raise awareness and encourage sustainability
- The STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) group has run a poster competition with a theme which raises awareness of sustainability and pupils have been involved with shaping the future direction of STEAM
- The Science Ambassadors organised and ran a Science Lecture with the theme Green Christmas

CRACKLEY HALL

- A 'book swap and toy recycling station' has been introduced.
- The school continues its journey towards Eco Schools status
- Crackley Hall has phased their Eco Club, initially involving Years 1 and 2 for one term, Years 3 and 4 for the second term and Years 5 and 6 for the final term. They are then working towards establishing a pupil-led committee
- *Eco Warriors* (Years 3 and 4 extra-curricular club) have built hedgehog houses and bird feeders to encourage and sustain wildlife. At Christmas they made eco decorations for the Christmas tree and potato printed their own recycled wrapping paper.
- The composting area in Windmill Wood has been installed
- The House Art Competition has the theme of Sustainable Portraits and a PTA Preloved Book Fair is planned
- The school is participating in *Terracycle* – Eliminating the idea of waste – free recycling scheme for snack packets.
- The school is participating in the Spring Fair at St Francis of Assisi Church, Kenilworth, reusing old mugs and planting seedlings in them to sell to raise money for *Save the Children*
- Increased awareness of energy-saving measures such as switching off lights and equipment when not in use, and closing windows



An Environmental Sustainability Conference is planned for all three schools for the summer term 2024.





CRESCENT SCHOOL

- The STEM Club is building a bug hotel for installation in Spring 2024
- Year 6 pupils are now propagating seeds in their raised beds.
- Pupils have successfully taken part in *The Big Battery Hunt*, *Cut Your Carbon* and the *Big Garden Birdwatch*.
- The Green Team has planned a day's workshop installing water butts to collect rainwater and building an eco-friendly, miniature water-harvesting roof
- A trustee, interested in environmental sustainability, has also joined The Green Team
- Crescent School continues its journey towards *Eco Schools* status with a key focus on bio-diversity, waste and water management
- The first *No Paper Day* is taking place in February 2024
- To widen information to stakeholders a new *Go Green...Stay Green* page in *The Courier* will feature sustainability ideas and projects

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Crescent School continues its journey towards *Eco Schools* status with a key focus on bio-diversity, waste and water management.

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OUR PLAN

In this plan, we have set out comprehensive and achievable targets over nine key areas. Our next job is to prioritise our targets, set timelines and agree metrics, so that we can measure, report our progress and make a real difference to our contribution to increase our sustainability and continue the journey towards Net Zero.

We will continue to comply with all statutory SECR and ESOS reporting requirements.

SECR, which stands for Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting, is a sustainability reporting framework which is mandatory for larger organisations in the United Kingdom (UK). It looks at not only the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced by the organization, but also the efforts taken to improve energy efficiency. SECR reporting helps us to record our progress in reducing greenhouse gases year-on-year. Our reporting year follows the school year from 1 September to 31 August.

ESOS, which stands for the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme, is the UK Government's approach to implementing Article 8 of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. It is a mandatory energy assessment and energy savings identification scheme for organisations operating in the UK which need to demonstrate compliance every four years.

The scheme mandates qualifying organisations to carry out an assessment of energy usage across all buildings and transport covering a 12-month period. The energy consumed has to be verifiable back to supplier invoices or meter readings and the significant energy users have to be identified for at least 95% of the total energy consumption. Each organisation has to undertake ESOS compliant energy audits which have to be signed off by an approved Lead Assessor and the full ESOS evidence must be collated and signed off by a board director and the Lead Assessor prior to submission to the Environment Agency.

2. BIODIVERSITY AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Maintain and enhance the green spaces on all school sites to support increased biodiversity and health and wellbeing.

TARGETS

- Contribute to reducing air pollution and mitigating the impact of poor air quality around the school sites, for example: decrease pollution at pick-up/drop-off times for students, encouraging parents/drivers to turn off engines whilst waiting
- Follow through with additional planting schemes, alongside landscaping plans for *The Science Centre*
- Greater involvement from students with the *John Muir Award*, promoting a holistic approach to outdoor experiences, specifically in areas such as: bird boxes, bat surveys, tree surveys, education and analysis of a child's carbon footprint
- Minimise damage to the natural environment on the schools' grounds, particularly damage to soil and placement of non-native species in woodlands and hedges
- Engender greater involvement from students at Crackley Hall and Crescent School through *Forest Schools*
- Expand Princethorpe's current biodiversity-conscious approach to all schools in the Foundation

SUCCESSSES

- Various tree planting schemes and bug hotels around the Princethorpe campus
- Intelligent planting to ensure an undisturbed ecosystem
- Diverse and careful planting in the *Switzerland* area of Princethorpe grounds
- Range of eco-friendly products used to maintain grounds, e.g. electric mowers with minimal disruption to wildlife, reduction of noise and air pollution
- Placing of sedum roof above the new bin store at Princethorpe, allowing for growing of wild plant species
- Steps taken to protect native nocturnal species, through bat surveys and nature-aware lighting
- Careful protection of soil, using measures to ensure that use of concrete does not contaminate the soil

- Student engagement, through *John Muir Award*, including tree planting and education on biodiversity.
- Attempts to maintain water purity in ponds through purity tests and measurements
- Successful rewilding of areas such as *Switzerland* and the walkway behind the netball courts
- Re-establishing the *Nut Walk* at Princethorpe
- Sustained protection and maintenance of several beehives through the Beekeeping Club
- Retention on-site of all the building spoil from the excavations for *The Science Centre* and new courts. This has enabled us to improve one of the fields used for grazing and this has now been returned to pasture
- Caterers making used coffee grounds available free-of-charge to use for composting
- A Key Species Biodiversity Project has been implemented as a piece of Sixth Form EPQ research to identify species across all three sites

OUR PLAN

- Increase number of bees kept on our grounds over the next year
- Further tree planting schemes, to offset carbon, at all schools in the Foundation, with work at Crescent School starting imminently
- Improving integrity of water mains into schools in order to minimise water waste
- Scheme to replant the diseased Lime trees, scoping both location, numbers and species of trees
- Continuation of methods currently being used to ensure accurate biodiversity and appropriate native species
- Actively reduce engine emissions at pick-up/drop-off points
- Create more student involvement on days such as UN Biodiversity Day, expanding the scope of *John Muir Award* and Forest School initiatives
- Use of environment-friendly chemicals and fertilisers
- Increase on-site composting to reduce the amount of waste carted from the site



“ We have successfully initiated various tree planting schemes and bug hotels around the Princethorpe campus. ”



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The lighting consumption of the Princethorpe Astro has been effectively halved, through migration to LED technology with an attendant increase in illumination levels.

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3. CARBON AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Improve energy efficiency and increase reliance on renewable sources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

TARGETS

- Implement an existing, comprehensive Energy Reduction Plan which gives cost and performance gains
- Change all lighting systems to LED and improve the lighting control systems
- Implement further solar photovoltaic arrays to generate electricity
- Update our IT infrastructure to decrease energy reliance through more efficient servers, distribution and the phasing out of some desktop computers
- Rationalise printing and copying to make it as sustainable as possible and to optimise power management on all IT equipment, in order to be less-reliant on air conditioning systems
- Increase levels of insulation and double-glazing as part of a rolling programme and as part of refurbishment and upgrading
- Modernise some of the Foundation's motor fleet and machinery to rely more on battery technology
- Provide some electrical vehicle charging on our sites to facilitate our stakeholders and raise awareness of our ambitions
- Keep a firm eye on all emerging technologies which complement our eco plans
- Ensure that appropriate financial planning takes place to enable us to achieve our targets

SUCCESSSES

- Some parts of the building at Princethorpe have received additional insulation and double glazing as part of an ongoing improvement programme
- For some years Crackley Hall has employed a roof array of solar photovoltaic panels which were commissioned in time to receive the feed-in tariff at the highest rate
- We are part-way through a programme to completely replace all lighting at Crescent School and Crackley Hall with LED lighting
- All playground lighting and car park lighting at Princethorpe is now LED
- Some internal illumination at Princethorpe, for example circulation areas, already employs LEDs
- The lighting consumption of the Princethorpe Astro has been effectively halved, through migration to LED technology with an attendant increase in illumination levels

- We have 27kW of solar photovoltaic panels on *The Science Centre* and are looking at providing panels at Crescent School and further panels on Crackley Hall
- We have built *The Science Centre* to be heat-pump-ready, with much of the infrastructure already in place, including plant room areas, pipework and ductwork; that building is entirely reliant on LED technology
- The Estates Department is able to monitor the environment of most of our buildings remotely, by an online Building Management System which allows optimisation of temperatures.
- Use of intelligent Building Management Systems in *The Limes* reduces use of energy and running costs and this system has been duplicated in *The Science Centre*
- *The Science Centre* has a 24/7 energy performance display so that the energy performance of the building can always be seen
- A new IT server infrastructure programme is in place and we have implemented improved power management on all systems including automatic shutdown of desktop computers
- On-desk charging for digital devices is being introduced
- Our Estates Department is employing battery powered machinery, including hedge cutters, robotised lawn mowers and robotic line markers

OUR PLANS

- We will continue to follow our plan to reduce energy consumption
- We aim to obtain EPC ratings for our buildings and take thermal images so that we can prioritise our improvements.
- We will continue our programme to convert all lighting to LED across all our sites.
- To implement some heat pumping in parts of the building which would favour this technology, as part of an overall boiler replacement programme
- To implement heat pumping in the new Science Centre as soon as funds allow
- We will review all radiators around our schools and where possible, add local control, with maximum temperatures controlled centrally
- To explore improving the existing installation of solar thermal collectors on the Sports Centre
- We are also committed to keeping abreast of emerging technology and making sure that key people are involved with suitable familiarisation and training programmes

4. CATERING

Manage the Foundation's catering operations with the aim of maintaining quality and enjoyment of food and reducing any negative environmental impact.

TARGETS

- Provide a broad variety of fayre which allows those eating to make informed choices through Carbon Footprint menu labelling
- Reduce fuel miles and vehicle emissions by encouraging the use of locally-sourced seasonal food, including that produced by the schools' stakeholders, such as pupils and parents and in time, from the school's own smallholding
- Reduce preparation waste
- Reduce food plate waste
- Reduce water usage
- Reduce energy usage in cooking by more effective control of cooking equipment
- Reduce energy consumption in dining areas through intelligent lighting and heating
- Eliminate disposable containers in the presentation of food
- Reduce the usage of paper in administration and packaging
- Eliminate the use of disposable cups, beakers and cutlery and reward the use of sustainable containers
- Encourage green-partnering with suppliers
- Donate safe and edible surplus food to local food banks
- Aim towards zero to landfill and agree waste streams

SUCCESSES

- Excellent meetings with our catering companies have shown that we have a shared vision for increasing our sustainability
- We have increased our reliance on local businesses to supply produce, resulting in higher quality and reduced fuel miles
- We are weighing food preparation waste and plate waste at Princethorpe for all meals
- We are composting food waste
- We are looking at being able to pass surplus in-date food on to local charities and food banks
- We have embarked on a programme to reduce packaging and to encourage the use of reusable drinks containers
- We are using washable plates, drinks containers and cutlery, rather than disposable alternatives
- We have reduced packaging for some cold fayre

OUR PLANS

- Work with our catering providers to discuss shared challenges, agree targets, measurements and key performance indicators (KPIs)
- Ensure that third-party suppliers share our environmental sustainability ambitions and have accreditations or are able to meet targets
- Make sure that our stakeholders are on board to support our targets and to make informed choices about the food which they eat
- Label food so that diners can choose to eat food with a smaller carbon footprint, for example food which is produced locally and has lower food miles
- Encourage the choice of food less likely to produce high levels of global warming, whilst continuing to offer a broad variety of fayre providing a balanced, healthy diet
- Empower our caterers to refuse food which has high fuel miles or is over packaged



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We aim to reduce fuel miles and vehicle emissions by encouraging the use of locally-sourced seasonal food.

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5. WATER

Conserving water also conserves energy. Improve water efficiency across the estates through design and maintenance of systems, in order to meet our current water needs, without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same.

TARGETS

- Reduce water usage through changing behaviour, using developing technology and by focusing on innovative practices
- Raise awareness of water conservation so that the Foundation can operate more efficiently and effectively
- Ensure that there is a programme to implement dual flush WCs, waterless urinals, automatic taps, efficient water fountains for drinking and water aeration nozzles
- Ensure that replacement plant which relies on water eg dishwashers and washing machines, are procured with regard to their eco performance and water usage
- When washing-up, encourage the use of efficient and fully-loaded dishwashers on eco cycles rather than washing by hand
- Reduce water waste through improving the integrity of the supply pipework and eliminating leakage
- Harvest rainwater for irrigation and irrigate at times of the day when evaporation of water is likely to be at its lowest
- Investigate the use of greywater (ie safe waste water) for irrigation
- Encourage the use of consumables eg textiles, where water reliance is minimal

SUCCESSSES

- The Estates Department has already raised awareness of water conservation, especially in their biodiversity work
- Mains water supply leaks have already been minimised
- Many of our WCs employ dual flush or other systems for water conservation
- Newer buildings have sensor taps or taps which cannot be left running when unattended

OUR PLANS

- In the short term, educate everyone to use the most appropriate flush levels on dual flush WCs
- Encourage people not to leave taps running for hand washing
- Ensure that water conservation is embedded in upgrading and maintenance programmes and becomes an integral part of new plant planning
- Investigate further the use of rain water and grey water
- Encourage families to include water conservation as part of home life – turning off taps, showering with less water and making sure that washing machines and dishwashers are used on full loads with eco programmes



Harvest rainwater for irrigation and irrigate at times of the day when evaporation of water is likely to be at its lowest.



6. WASTE AND USE OF RESOURCES

Promote responsible consumption, reduce the amount of waste produced and increase reuse and recycling where generation of waste cannot be prevented.

TARGETS

- Increase our information and educational programme so that waste and recycling is better understood
- Raise the profile of the 6Rs of Recycling; *Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Repair*. Changing our approach to consumption and waste requires a change in mindset
- Reduce all waste
- Make it easier to recycle by providing easily accessible, labelled containers
- Increase efficiency at sorting of waste
- Reduce our reliance on paper by increased reliance on electronic media
- Reduce the use of disposable cutlery, cups and containers
- Maximise recycling and composting opportunities to reduce waste to landfill
- Ensure that we dispose of hazardous waste legally, ethically and responsibly
- Maximise the use of resources in order to reduce waste, for example better estimation of materials needed for construction or renovation projects
- Seek greater co-operation with the local authority and other waste processors
- When we dispose of equipment, furniture and other resources, look for them to go to second users
- Increase communication across the Foundation about equipment disposals so that it may be redeployed elsewhere

SUCCESSSES

- We have raised the profile of recycling through assemblies, posters and meetings of our green teams
- We have increased our successes of day-to-day recycling by making containers much more visible which encourages our communities to recycle
- Crackley Hall's *Live Simply Award* reduces reliance on resources and therefore cuts down both waste and expense

- We are reducing the reliance on printed documents by increased use of personally-owned computer devices through BYOD; photocopying page count has halved over the last 12 months
- Paper and cardboard recycling from copiers and from parcels is being recycled and we have a cardboard compactor
- We use a confidential waste shredding partner who recycles our confidential waste which is then pulped
- The Estates Department is composting waste wherever it can; Crescent's mowing robot automatically mulches the grass which it cuts because of the frequency of cutting.
- We have successfully held clothes sales for unwanted items to go to second users
- We have battery recycling containers to encourage recycling of potentially hazardous materials
- We ethically and securely recycle computer equipment so that it goes to a second user or a specialist recycler
- We are disposing of our unwanted old lab furniture to specialists who will re-use the materials

OUR PLANS

- We need to raise awareness and engagement amongst our stakeholders, through events and publicity programmes, publishing our results and encouraging a spill over into home lives
- We will make it easier to dispose thoughtfully of our day-to-day rubbish in order to maximise recycling
- Replace playground bins with recycling stations to make segregated recycling easier
- We will think carefully about procuring new equipment, taking into consideration not only cost but the operational life of items and how easily they can be repaired.
- We will encourage pupils to use scrap paper for rough working and we will ask members of staff to think carefully about the volume of their printed matter
- We are developing waste management programmes for day-to-day waste and also for all construction and refurbishment projects, which sub-contractors will be obliged to follow



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Maximise recycling and composting opportunities to reduce waste to landfill.

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Reduce buildings' heat loss through greater levels of insulation and secondary glazing.



7. CARING FOR OUR BUILDINGS

Manage construction, refurbishment and post-completion occupancy of our buildings to reduce environmental impact and enhance the wellbeing of building users.

TARGETS

- Consolidate templates to cover best sustainability practices for new builds and refurbishments
- Increase LED lighting provision across all sites
- Increase solar PV provision across all sites
- Introduce electric vehicle charging points on our sites
- Look at schemes to increase renewable energy to decrease reliance on hydrocarbons (eg gas)
- Reduce buildings' heat loss through greater levels of insulation and secondary glazing
- Look at service life, energy consumption and reliability in procuring new equipment
- Engrain *Re-use and repair, rather than replace* into all our thinking
- Use low-impact, sustainable and traceable building materials
- Consider interaction of buildings with the natural environment, for example bricks which will accommodate bees and other insects, and sedum roofing

SUCCESSES TO DATE

- Solar photovoltaics at Crackley Hall and on *The Sports Centre* and *The Science Centre* at Princethorpe feeding energy into the National Grid
- We are researching a renewable energy project at Crescent School to provide heat and electricity, to reduce reliance on the grid
- Promoted positive cultural change with regard to maintaining heritage buildings
- Installed a new sedum roof over an external store at Princethorpe
- Latest building management systems in place in *The Limes* and *The Science Centre* at Princethorpe
- Programme to change all luminaires to LEDs to reduce lighting costs, which has included halving the cost of running the floodlights on the Astroturf at Princethorpe. Crescent School has almost at 100% LED coverage

- Some solar thermal collectors at Princethorpe
- Partial secondary double glazing on all sites
- Increased use of water-soluble paints
- Greater use of battery-powered equipment which mitigates reliance on hydrocarbons
- Embedded EV charging into our forthcoming parking planning schemes
- Drawn up a procurement checklist which covers the refurbishment of existing buildings and the design and commissioning new buildings

OUR PLANS

- Our key priority is to change the culture and embed sustainability as part of the Estates Department's ethos
- We will raise awareness of the need to increase our sustainability, through a process of education, collaboration and information-giving
- We will consolidate our templates to cover best sustainability practices for new buildings and refurbishments, so that both elements have useful protocols which enable better outcomes.
- We will rely on local ethical suppliers of materials who support our objectives and try to minimise fuel miles
- We will try to keep a basic stock of fast moving materials to minimise trips out for small items
- We will employ better estimation and quantity surveying to minimise over-ordering and wastage
- We will balance greater durability with cost to reduce replacement cycles and ensure best practice with maintenance of existing plant and equipment
- One of our key objectives must be to ensure that heating prime movers are replaced with more sustainable systems at the end of their service lives

8. TRANSPORT

Daily travel accounts for around 70% of our carbon footprint. The promotion of sustainable school travel reduces carbon emissions, improves air quality, promotes health and well-being and reduces noise, congestion and road traffic casualties. We are also keen to reduce the environmental impact of educational visits, conferences and meetings.

TARGETS

- Promote and encourage sustainable travel options for pupils, parents and staff, including lift sharing
- Improve systems and infrastructure around our schools for safe and sustainable travel
- Develop and promote education opportunities to include sustainable travel and to weave it into our plans for visits, trips, conferences and meetings in school and in family life

SUCCESSSES

- We operate a comprehensive daily coach and minibus service with 12 modern vehicles, most of which are Euro6 compliant which means they are compatible with ULEZ
- Some parents and members of staff already run electric vehicles and we plan the installation of charging points, initially on the Princethorpe campus
- We already provide some cycle parking on our sites and offer an incentivised *Cycle to Work* scheme for members of staff. Some members of staff have happily adapted and enjoy commuting by bicycle
- We have measured our carbon footprint which arises from our buses, car transport for pupils and for staff commuting, which allows us to make year-on-year comparisons
- Some of our pupils and staff in our junior schools walk to and from school

- We have embarked on a programme to replace some estates vehicles with electric vehicles
- Some Parents' Evenings have moved online, which has significantly reduced travel and improved logistics and well-being
- Online seminars for members of staff have made better use of time and reduced travel, to places like London, where these events have traditionally been staged
- At Princethorpe we have started to take some air quality measurements

OUR PLANS

- We need to promote viable, accessible, attractive and sustainable travel options for staff and pupils
- We are keen to reduce the carbon impact of our current arrangements and to try to mitigate it further. The carbon footprint of our buses is hard to change, but moving commuters from a car to buses will not increase the carbon from buses, but will reduce the carbon burden of cars
- In our prep schools we would like to encourage more walking, by 'walking buses' (groups of children picked up along a route which can be supervised on a rota basis by small groups of responsible people) and cycling
- In all of our schools, where car transport is vital, we could help with arrangements for lift-sharing, looking at systems such as the *HomeRun* app and encourage good habits to minimise pollution during drop-off and pick-up periods during the school day
- We need to make sure that when organising educational trips, visits and conferences, due regard is given to the organisers' attention to sustainable elements and particularly travel. For example, a day trip to London may be more sustainable by rail, even with the need for coach travel to the local station
- We will publish a Travel Plan which has sustainability, practicality, flexibility and well-being as its cornerstones



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We need to promote viable, accessible, attractive and sustainable travel options for staff and pupils.

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9. BUYING GOODS AND SERVICES

Ensure that all procurement is carried out to meet our sustainability objectives and that third parties support our ambitions so that they can contribute ethically to our goals.

Sustainable procurement isn't just about buying 'green' products. It also includes planning ahead to manage demand, effective ongoing contract management and dealing with supply chain risks and impacts. Purchasing decisions have environmental implications now and for generations to come. Well-managed procurement practice can generate significant benefits, including carbon reduction, increased efficiency and cost savings.

TARGETS

- Ensure that all procurement contributes to carbon reduction
- Ensure that all procurement is carried out so that our own personnel and those of third parties support our sustainability ambitions and contribute ethically to our goals
- Check that services and goods are actually needed
- Repair where possible and where economically viable
- Share services or equipment between our schools
- Understand how the initial monetary and environmental cost of purchasing a product or service compare with the lifetime (and ultimate disposal) costs incurred by that same product or service (ie manufacturing costs and running costs)
- Engage with our suppliers and contractors to ensure that they support the Foundation's environmental standards.
- Ensure that suppliers and contractors demonstrate and progressively improve their own sustainable environmental performance
- Look at relevant accreditation schemes such as ISO 14001 which will inspire us to manage this as well as we can
- Support supplier diversity
- Support relevant ethical standards such as local sourcing, paying the minimum living wage, *Fair Trade* and humane treatment of animals. Does the supplier have a Modern Slavery Statement?

SUCCESSSES

- We have introduced new and effective guidelines for general procurement, for the refurbishing of existing buildings and for the construction of new buildings
- We are actively looking at whole lifetime costs of equipment and services and at end-of-life recycling
- We are purchasing more environmentally-friendly products such as paints, paper and cleaning products

OUR PLANS

- We will embed sustainable procurement as a key element of our resourcing
- Where we are buying services we will look for suppliers which are able to support our environmental sustainability ambitions
- Where we can, we will buy environmentally-friendly goods and services
- We will take care to ensure that we actually need specific goods and services and where it is expedient to do so, we will repair and re-use existing items
- When buying goods we will look at environmental manufacturing and whole life costs
- We will work towards relevant accreditation if we feel that it will help to improve our environmental sustainability credentials

IN CONCLUSION

The whole of our school sector is busily involved in working through measures and initiatives to make our schools more sustainable.

Many schools, including ours, are well underway in delivering sustainable actions, predominantly in driving energy efficiency, waste reduction and renewable energy. By achieving more robust and detailed measurement we will be able to make more effective decisions and track progress, particularly in reducing energy usage, waste and carbon emissions. We already have baseline carbon footprint measurements and ultimately, with a template for the whole of our sector, we will be able to benchmark not only between our own schools but with other schools as well. We can also play a critical part in accelerating the race to Net Zero and in empowering the next generation with the knowledge, motivation and skills to continue the impact.



We are actively looking at whole lifetime costs of equipment and services and at end-of-life recycling.



NEXT STEPS

We will, of course be monitoring and evaluating the plan and are establishing key performance indicators to assess its progress.

We would welcome any feedback from you which you can give via this form or by emailing netzero@princethorpe.co.uk.



The
Princethorpe
Foundation



Princethorpe College

11 to 18 years

princethorpe.co.uk | 01926 634200



Crescent School

4 to 11 years

crescentschool.co.uk | 01788 521595



Crackley Hall School

4 to 11 years

crackleyhall.co.uk | 01926 514444



Little Crackers Nursery

2 to 4 years

littlecrackers.co.uk | 01926 514444

theprincethorpefoundation.co.uk