

# Orleans Primary School



## Reduce, Re-use and Recycle policy

This policy was reviewed: March 2021

This Policy will be reviewed: March 2024

Signed Chair of Governors:

Date:

Signed Head teacher:

Date:

## Orleans Primary School – Recycling Policy

The children, staff, parents and governors of Orleans Primary School are committed to developing their care of the environment. We realise the importance of caring for the environment both for current and future generations. We aim for this policy to become a fundamental part of the school's culture and clearly demonstrate that the school is taking seriously its role as part of the wider and global community. We take very seriously our responsibility to keep our school free of litter, reduce the amount of rubbish we send to landfill and increase the amount of materials we recycle.

### **Our eco-intent:**

Our aim is for the whole school community to be involved in reducing the impact we have on the environment both local and global. Within our commitment to being eco-friendly we provide the opportunities for the pupils and the wider community to be curious and critical thinkers who ask questions in order to challenge the status quo and improve our environment. With that in mind, this policy has been shared with all staff and as well as parents/carers. All staff are aware of our aims and how we work towards implementing them.

At Orleans Primary School, we believe in being eco-friendly and following the three R's:

- \* Reduce
- \* Reuse
- \* Recycle

### **Eco-building**

During the building programme, when the school was changing from an infant to a primary school, the architects and planners of the new school building worked with children, staff and governors to include a number of eco-friendly features in its construction. These features were carefully considered and included:

- Taps being replaced with push-down taps in order to reduce water waste,
- Solar panels being fitted on both the hall and main building (generating electricity from the sunlight and feeding back into the national grid),
- Sedum roof installed on the hall roof providing insulation during the colder months and a cooling effect during the summer,
- Water butts being installed,
- Classrooms being fitted with temperature controlled radiators,
- Sensored lighting being provided in the Year 4 and 5 classrooms, cupboards in the hall and reception area.

All of these features have helped to enhance our eco-friendly status.

### **Implementation of our commitment to the environment:**

- We ensure that the playground areas within our schools are provided with litter and recycling bins that are clearly marked and easily accessed.
- We ensure that the catering staff have access to recycling bins and are trained on how to use them.
- Gardening materials are put into composting bins whenever possible.

- We purchase recycled paper (and other school necessities) whenever possible, alongside this we monitor the amount of paper used for photocopying.
- We no longer purchase non-environmentally friendly glitter.
- Each class is provided with a recycling bin specifically for paper. These can also be found in the office and photocopier room.
- We ensure that the scrap paper from our printers and photocopiers is recycled or used in our classrooms and offices.
- We ask staff to ensure that any electrical equipment is shut down when not in use.
- We ensure that regular environmental education is undertaken in our school, with workshops and projects run to ensure knowledge and awareness amongst students and the wider community – for example, scooter training and walk to school initiatives.
- We encourage cycling to school through cycling proficiency schemes. Cycle racks have been built for staff and children both in the main and back entrance.
- Where car use is unavoidable, school will encourage car sharing for staff and parents bringing pupils to school as well as encouraging parking further away and walking the final section of the school journey, where possible.
- We have a dedicated Year 6 team who run the recycling and light monitoring throughout the school.
- In autumn 2019 we joined a pen recycling scheme.

### **Year 6 Eco-Monitors:**

Our Eco-Monitors are chosen from each of the year 6 classes and are invited to join the recycling and light monitoring teams. They attend meetings to discuss their roles and ways of making Orleans Primary School more eco-friendly. Our Eco-Monitors help to develop and monitor strategies for saving energy and reducing waste. They regularly monitor the energy use in school, encourage the recycling and composting of as much waste as possible and think of new ways the school can be more sustainable.

### **POOOP (Plastic out of Orleans Primary) Campaign:**

The mission statement for this campaign was written by a group of our pupils: ‘To stop plastic at Orleans Primary School and inspire our families and other schools to reduce their use of plastic.’

In the summer term 2019 Orleans Primary committed to working to remove plastic from our school. We have been working with our parents and school community by organising ‘plogging’ (Picking up litter whilst jogging) in the local area to pick up plastic litter and to remind families of the importance of reducing the amount of plastic we use. This is an ongoing project for our school.

### **Impact:**

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make.” —*Jane Goodall*

Working together, with perseverance and determination, we can make our school and the world in which we live a better place – this is the impact that as a school we are determined to have on our environment. Pupils will gain a

greater understanding of the impact of their actions on the environment and the importance of individuals' choices. The children are empowered to be proactive in their actions and have the courage to stand up for their beliefs and values, through this pupils will develop their critical thinking.

Policy reviewed: March 2021

Policy due for renewal: March 2024.