



LIONHEART
EDUCATIONAL
TRUST

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

**This policy applies to all schools within
the Lionheart Educational Trust**

Approved by the Trust

December 2025 – December 2028

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Policy Statement

The Lionheart Educational Trust (Trust) is committed to embedding sustainability across all aspects of its operations, curriculum, and community engagement. In alignment with the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, this policy sets out the definitive actions The Trust will take to ensure environmental stewardship, climate resilience, and sustainable development across its schools.

By December 2025, all Trust schools will have a nominated Sustainability Lead and a published climate action plan. These plans will be actively implemented and monitored to ensure measurable progress.

Aims and Objectives

The Trust will:

- Establish a sustainability leadership structure across the Trust.
- Implement climate action plans in every school.
- Upgrade infrastructure to improve energy and water efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance biodiversity.
- Integrate climate education and green skills into all relevant curriculum areas.
- Enforce sustainable procurement and waste minimisation practices.
- Monitor progress using robust data and benchmarking tools.

Strategic Priorities

1. Leadership and Governance

- Each school will appoint a Sustainability Lead by December 2025.
- Sustainability will be a standing agenda item at Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and governor meetings.
- The Trust will operate a central oversight group to support implementation and share best practices.

2. Climate Action Planning

All schools will publish and implement a climate action plan that includes:

- Decarbonisation: Conduct energy audits, reduce carbon footprints, and procure renewable energy.

- Adaptation and Resilience: Complete flood risk assessments, install overheating mitigation measures, and develop green infrastructure.
- Biodiversity and Environment: Create habitats, develop outdoor learning spaces, and participate in external environmental groups.
- Climate Education and Careers: Embed sustainability in the curriculum, deliver staff CPD, and support student-led sustainability initiatives.

3. Operational Sustainability

- Estates teams will carry out energy and water efficiency upgrades, funded through SCA.
- All procurement will use sustainable sources via CCS, ESPO, or equivalent frameworks.
- Schools will install water-saving devices and monitor usage against national benchmarks.

4. Waste and Resource Management

- Trust schools will implement a “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” strategy.
- Recycling initiatives will be expanded and actively promoted within schools and the local community.
- Circular economy principles will be integrated into both curriculum and operational practices.

5. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

As part of our commitment to sustainable and responsible innovation, The Lionheart Trust recognises the balance between the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to positively impact educational outcomes with its energy usage and associated carbon emissions.

AI technologies are being explored and adopted to:

Reduce teacher workload by automating routine tasks such as marking, lesson planning, and data analysis, allowing staff to focus more on high-impact teaching and pastoral care.

Support pupil progress through personalised learning tools, intelligent feedback systems, and adaptive platforms that respond to individual student needs, helping close attainment gaps and improve engagement. In alignment with our sustainability values, we are mindful of the environmental footprint of digital technologies.

We prioritise the use of AI tools and platforms that demonstrate a clear commitment to carbon neutrality. Our chosen AI platform, Co-Pilot, is a Microsoft system and Microsoft have pledged to be carbon negative by 2030 and to remove all historical carbon emissions by 2050. Their cloud infrastructure is powered by renewable energy and designed for energy efficiency, supporting our goal of reducing the school’s digital carbon footprint. We will

continue to monitor the environmental and educational impact of AI use in school, ensuring it aligns with our broader sustainability strategy and ethical standards.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Energy Sparks will be used to monitor energy and CO₂ performance during school hours, weekends, holidays, and community usage.
- Monthly performance reports will be submitted to the Executive Team to inform budget planning and strategic decisions.
- Judgemeadow Community College will continue contractual energy management through SRM and G4S meetings.

Curriculum and Community Engagement

- Senior leaders will embed climate education across all subjects.
- Pupils will lead sustainability projects to develop their understanding and leadership skills.
- Schools will engage parents and local stakeholders through published climate action plans and community events.

Review and Accountability

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Trust Board. Termly progress reports will be submitted to governors and published on school websites. The Executive Head with Eco Leadership, in collaboration with Estates and school leaders, will oversee implementation and ensure compliance with national standards. Yearly Trust Board reporting.