



Mohill Community College Sustainable Environment Statement

We in Mohill Community College aim to provide students with knowledge, skills and understanding in biodiversity and sustainability by embedding the topics within many areas of our curriculum and by involving ourselves in a range of extra-curricular activities related to environment and sustainable development issues.

The following actions represent some of the activities which we as a school community can undertake to show our commitment to and care for the environment:

Actions intended to maximise recycling

- Composting food waste from the kitchen.
- Ensuring selective waste collection, where all staff and students use the right bins so that we can recycle and compost our waste.
- Encouraging students to bring reusable water bottles into school, as opposed to disposable plastic bottles. Any disposable plastic bottles brought into school will be recycled.
- Clearly labelling bins located throughout the school for recycling and general waste.
- Advertising the benefits of being environmentally friendly around school.
- Promoting the benefits of recycling.

Actions intended to promote sustainable procurement

- Minimising waste of materials in practical subjects, reiterating the importance of utilising materials carefully to avoid waste and reduce consumption.
- Ensuring where possible that equipment purchased is made from sustainable resources, for example, biodegradable cups for water rather than plastic
- Upcycling – where appropriate.
- Writing and printing on both sides of paper wherever possible.
- Using emails as much as possible, to reduce paper waste.
- Using emails, the school's website and parent text messaging procedures when communicating with parents, to reduce paper waste.
- Re-using used paper whenever possible.

- Only printing documents when it is essential.
- Making sure all waste office equipment is correctly disposed of via reuse or recycling schemes.
- Where possible, laminating frequently used documents, protecting them from damage and prolonging their use.
- Continuing our support for and annual involvement in promoting Fairtrade.

Actions intended to improve and increase resource efficiency

- Monitoring and reviewing the school's energy usage.
- Identifying energy waste and taking the necessary steps to rectify this.
- Ensuring their classrooms are using energy sustainably, for example, ensuring that lights are turned off when not in use.
- Turning off energy-draining appliances, for example, computers, projectors and interactive white boards, when they're not in use.
- Monitoring the temperature and frequency of heating in the school and adjusting it accordingly.

Actions intended to reduce waste generated

- Developing a curriculum which promotes the need for environmental sustainability.
- Including and engaging staff, students, parents to improve and sustain the world today for future generations.
- Sharing good practice with staff, students, parents and encouraging them to adopt the initiatives outlined within this statement.
- Promoting awareness of climate change through cross-curricular activities.
- Eating healthy, natural fruit and vegetable snacks, which don't come in paper or plastic packaging.

Monitoring all of the above on a regular basis, school management will liaise with the Green Schools Team and their Mentors to act as our Team Leaders.

An annual Environmental Review will be conducted, out of which the existing Action Plan will be evaluated.

Ongoing linking to the curriculum will ensure that actions are relevant and meaningful.

Involving the whole school community will give impetus to our activities and ensure that respect for our environment locally and world-wide is at the core of all that we do.

Approved by the Board of Management 23rd January 2023.

