

# Sustainable Development Policy

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<b>Summary/Description:</b>			
<p>Sustainability is considered a way of life at Strive for Education and it aims to incorporate sustainability in to everything it does by educating and supporting our students to make good decisions.</p>			

## **Introduction**

The Sustainable Development Policy has been produced in support of Strive for Education's related policies and action plans.

Sustainable development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

## **Policy Statement**

To Strive for Education, sustainability means living in harmony, acting with kindness, and caring for all living things, now and for future generations. Strive for Education will act responsibly, consider the wider implications of its actions, and aim to see staff and student lives having a positive impact on the world.

Strive for Education will equip its students with the skills to make a difference in their future careers and enable staff and students to consider their individual and collective environmental and social impacts.

Strive for Education will take the challenges that the world faces seriously by engaging in meaningful and critical dialogue and ensuring that social justice is at its core.

Strive for Education sees sustainability as fundamental to its culture and practice and is considered 'business as usual'. Staff and students are engaged in the importance of sustainability and feel confident to engage with finding solutions to the world's greatest challenges.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, frame the priorities and actions that Strive aims to follow and improve upon. The SDGs are a global agenda, adopted by all United Nations countries in 2015, with a vision of ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In seeking to be sustainable, the Strive for Education aims to be ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable across generations. These concepts inform curriculum and research, helping to prepare students to contribute as working citizens for an environmentally sound and socially just society. Strive for Education shall function as a sustainable community, embodying responsible consumption of food and energy, treating its diverse members with respect, and supporting these values in the community.

Strive for Education views that sustainability is a process of ensuring the wise use of all resources within a framework in which environmental, social, and economic factors are integrated. In adopting this approach, Strive for Education recognises the need to reflect the reality that humanity is affecting the environment in ways which are historically unprecedented, and which are potentially devastating for both natural ecosystems and human beings. As educational establishments are an integral part of the global economy and since they prepare most of the professionals who develop, manage, and teach in society's public, private and non-governmental institutions, they are uniquely positioned to influence the direction we choose to take as a society. As major contributors to the values, health and wellbeing of society, higher education has a fundamental responsibility to teach, train and carry out research for sustainability. Strive for Education seeks to adopt a bold agenda with sustainability and the environment cornerstones of all of its work.

## **Policy Implementation**

In order to meet the Sustainability Development Policy Statement, Strive for Education will:

- create awareness of the SDGs and enable staff and students to understand the need for individual and collective action in relation to these global and local challenges.
- equip its students with the skills, knowledge and attributes to make a difference in their future careers and lives.
- increase awareness of environmentally sustainable development, including collaboration with the local and regional communities.
- create and maintain an institutional culture of sustainability, social justice and the SDGs.
- practice institutional environmental sustainability, operating in ways that maximise social and economic benefit while minimising adverse impacts on the local and wider communities.
- develop curriculum content for all students which develops environmentally responsible citizenship.
- ensure staff and students develop an understanding of ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable concepts of sustainable development.
- invest in staff development, value stakeholder involvement and promote social inclusion and equity.
- work with other schools to help them practice, teach and promote sustainable development.
- work in co-operation with local, regional, national and international organisations to help promote a sustainable future.