



King's
1502

Sustainability
FOR ALL



AN Environmentally HEALTHY SCHOOL

At King's, we pride ourselves on being an environmentally healthy school and we are committed to being a sustainable and eco-friendly organisation.

We strive to create an innovative learning environment that promotes a sustainable future for both our pupils and the planet. Our educational approach at King's aims to prepare pupils for the evolving world they will inhabit and lead. By reducing our carbon footprint and implementing eco-conscious practices, we seek to cultivate environmental awareness and understanding among our entire school community. This commitment to sustainability is integral to our mission of equipping students with the knowledge and values needed to thrive in a changing world while safeguarding its resources.

At King's we strive for educational excellence, enhancing lives and equipping future generations to be responsible resource managers. Our school campus exemplifies respect and care for the environment, inspiring pupils to do the same. We nurture our pupils' curiosity and concern for nature in all its forms. By helping pupils grasp their role in shaping the planet's future, we motivate them to embrace sustainability and become guardians of the Earth.

A collaborative endeavour

Our commitment to sustainability is a school-wide initiative, involving every member of our school community in the following ways:

Pupil Leadership:

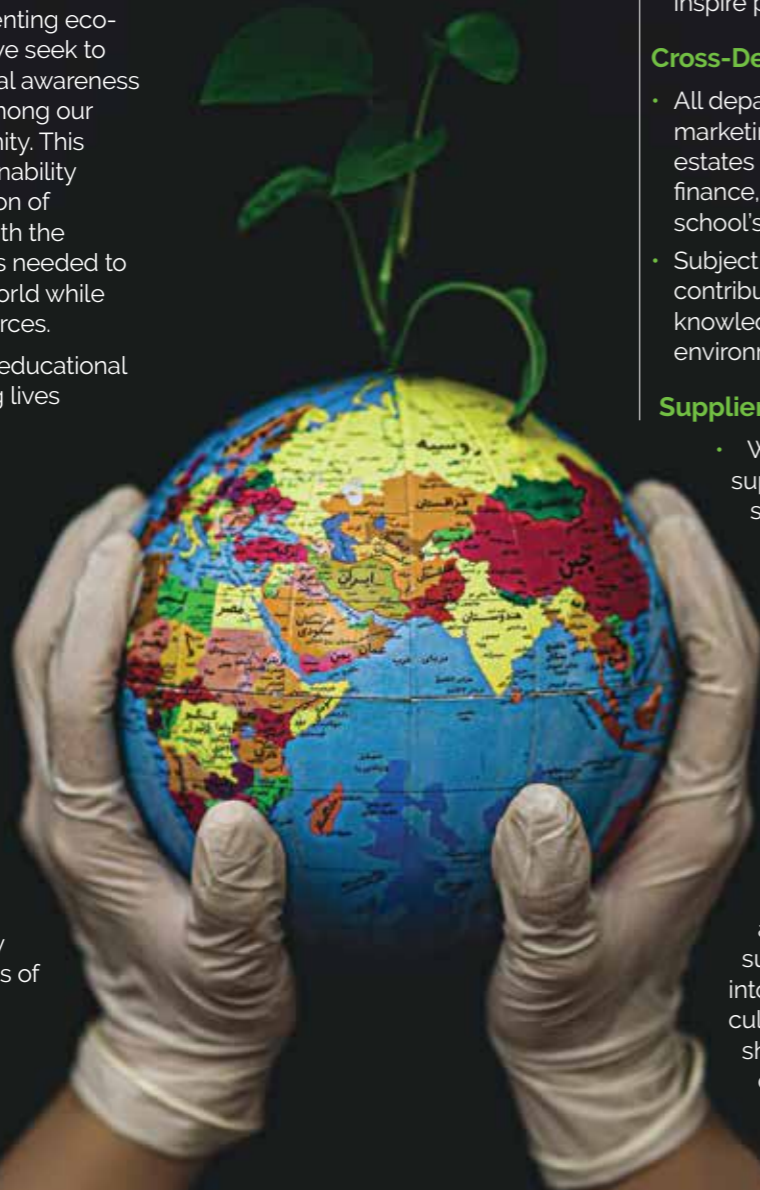
- 'Eco Warriors' take on key roles across all age groups, from Infants to Juniors and into the Senior Division.
- Our young leaders drive environmental initiatives and inspire peer engagement.

Cross-Departmental Expertise:

- All departments, including marketing, reprographics, estates management and finance, play crucial roles in the school's sustainability efforts.
- Subject matter experts contribute their specialised knowledge to support our environmental goals.

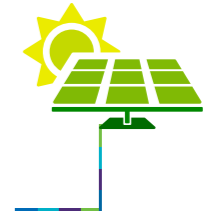
Supplier Partnerships:

- We have enlisted the support of all school suppliers in our sustainability mission.
 - These partners actively identify and implement energy and resource-saving measures.
 - Their dedication helps create a more environmentally friendly campus environment.
 - This collaborative approach ensures that sustainability is woven into the fabric of our school culture, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and collective impact.



WE EMBRACE Sustainability

Our 'Sustainability Policy' is testament to our dedication to this crucial initiative.



This policy can be accessed in the *School Life – Sustainability* section of our website. We engage all pupils and staff in discussions about this policy, which serves as the cornerstone for our school-wide Sustainability for All Programme.

Sustainability is an ongoing learning journey and therefore important for everyone.

Sustainability Assemblies form part of our regular assembly programme in the Infant & Junior Division, reaffirming the key messages. They bring sustainability to life, emphasising its practical applications, its critical importance for our future, and how each of us can contribute.

Key highlights include:

- Exploring sustainable practices for school and home
- Emphasising the crucial **Reduce-Reuse-Recycle** approach
- Showcasing our school's existing sustainability initiatives
- Identifying areas for future improvement

Annual poster competitions are run by our 'Eco Warriors', inspiring pupils to create eye-catching designs and building on messages taught through assemblies. The posters are then displayed and serve as vibrant reminders of our key sustainability messages.



Projects and Research

The Infant & Junior Division took part in *The Big Plastic Count*, a nationwide study on plastic waste led by Greenpeace and Everyday Plastic.

Every class joined in, with families tracking all discarded plastic items over the course of a week. We used various resources to educate pupils about plastic pollution, allowing each form to calculate their weekly 'footprint'. This proved to be an enlightening and engaging way to explore a key sustainability issue and we plan to engage with this study on an annual basis.

Year 5 pupil projects on *Surfers Against Sewage's 'Million Mile Clean'* helped them research different plastics, their effects on wildlife and ecosystems, and potential solutions. Pupils presented their findings creatively using diverse media.

Curriculum Integration

We undertook a review and evaluation of our **teaching and learning approach (2023-24)** across all divisions which aimed to assess how thoroughly sustainability themes are integrated into our curriculum. We identified our strengths and areas for improvement in making sustainability a central part of every learning experience and a way of life for our community. We are proud of our ongoing collaboration with *The Harmony Project*, which helps us weave sustainability throughout our curriculum and maximise related opportunities.



MAKING *Changes* FOR THE BETTER

At King's we are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing our sustainability programme across all operations. We continually review our practices to support this goal.



Our key initiatives include:

• Renewable Energy:

Solar panels have been installed on both our main School building and our Sports Centre, providing green energy for both the school and back to the national grid.



• Electronics Recycling:

We partner with 'Brighter Futures', a social support service provider, to refurbish and reuse our old electronic equipment. They calculate and offset the carbon produced through tree planting.



• Comprehensive Recycling:

All recyclables are reclaimed from our waste, including plastics, paper, metal, etc. We also minimize colour printing and operate a second-hand uniform shop.



• Eco-friendly Search Engine:

We will be adopting Ecosia, a search engine that uses advertising revenue to plant trees and fight climate change.

• Waste Management:

Our waste is carefully managed and processed at a local Material Recovery Facility. Cardboard is 100% recycled into paper products, dry mixed recycling is fully recycled, and remaining general waste is used to generate electricity for local homes.



• **Litter Control:** We have increased the use of litter pickers and are improving our bin designs to better retain recyclable waste.

• Digital Transformation:

We have introduced e-versions of our admissions literature and are exploring DocuSign for contracts to reduce paper usage.



• **Print Management:** We use 'PaperCut' software to manage and reduce printing waste. We also have a commitment to use more recycled paper for printing booklets for events.

These initiatives demonstrate our ongoing commitment to sustainability and our efforts to reduce our environmental impact across all aspects of school operations.



Beekeeping & School orchard

We maintain beehives and an orchard on campus, managed by Happy Valley Honey and The Random Apple Company. The hives are used as a teaching resource, with our younger pupils studying the importance of bees and their role in pollination and biodiversity.

Pupils can observe the bees through a viewing hive and participate in educational talks. We have invested in beekeeping suits for hands-on learning experiences and are keen to organise staff training in beekeeping. Reception classes plant trees in the orchard every year, fostering a connection with nature.



King's has its own orchard and no less than **6** bee hives containing **10,000** bees



From Food to Fork

Food Sustainability:

Our catering partner, Holyroyd Howe, supports our sustainability goals. All food waste is converted into energy and compost through anaerobic digestion. We have developed a 'From Food to Fork' programme, with pupils growing vegetables and learning about sustainable food production; this will continue to grow and build. Other initiatives being explored include educational sessions, replacing plastic with glass bottles, exploring sustainable packaging options, and introducing carbon labelling on food items.





Sustainable Transportation

We are improving our eco-friendly travel options, however there is room for growth. Our school's wide catchment area presents unique challenges. We have enhanced bus services, promoted car-sharing, walking and cycling, and improved local pathways. We offer cycle parking, changing facilities, and staff incentives for cycling. We've also implemented staggered arrival times and extended hours to reduce traffic congestion. Electric vehicle charging is now available in the Sports Centre car park.



Wildlife Habitats

Since 2020, we have developed two wetland wildlife and biodiversity teaching areas on our campus. Although man made, these blend perfectly in to the landscape and support a variety of wildlife. They are teeming with dragonflies, fish, ducks, pond skaters and newts to name just a few species. Our Senior pupils have helped to establish and now maintain these important habitats. Pupils have installed plants that naturally filter the water. Pupils have also monitored wildlife species and counted 10 different varieties of dragonfly and damsonfly.

Swift, bat and owl boxes have been installed around the new campus to support wildlife. In October 2022, a pupil survey of birds on the site logged 32 different bird species sighted, including Tree Creeper, Song Thrush, Swift and House Martin (both Red List species), Swallow, Greater Spotted Woodpecker, Hobby, Kestrel, Willow Warbler (an Amber List species) and Wren. Red is the highest conservation priority in the UK, with species on this list in critical decline and needing urgent action.

Planting for the Future

Since moving to our new campus in 2020, we have planted more than 2,000 trees on the campus. We have worked with The Woodland Trust through their 'free trees for schools' initiative and have planted 1,600 native tree saplings.

Varieties include hazel, hawthorn, elder, crab apple, silver birch, rowan, wild cherry and blackthorn. Many have been used to renew old hedgerows or establish new ones, while some have been chosen for their benefits for pollinators or all year-round colour. In addition to maintaining the many mature trees on our campus, we have also planted new semi-mature trees including oaks, birch, sycamore and maple trees.

We have also planted 600 square metres of spring bulbs on our campus, which will flower each year and help pollinators including bees and insects.



OUR ONGOING Commitment

Sustainability is not just a trend - it is a long-term commitment that requires everyone's participation.



We all share the responsibility to find new ways to improve our environmental practices, minimise waste, and optimise our use of valuable resources.

At King's we value your input! Do you have any suggestions for positive changes we could implement? Whether they are small tweaks or innovative "out-of-the-box" ideas, your insights are crucial and we want to hear from you.

Every idea counts.

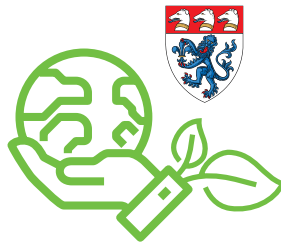
Together, we can make a significant impact on our school's environmental footprint and contribute to a more sustainable future for us all.



Got a good idea?

Your insights are crucial and we want to hear from you! Please send suggestions to mail@kingsmac.co.uk





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