

DULWICH COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1619

Environmental Impact Report

October 2025 (For period FY2024)



Executive statement

Welcome to our latest Environmental Impact Report, covering the academic year from July 2023 to August 2024.

Due to the complexities of calculating scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for this report, there has been a delay in our communication, so apologies for this and I appreciate your patience. I look forward to working with Robert Milne, The Master, on planning the route to achieving our 2030 Sustainability strategy targets.

It has been a pleasure to welcome Luke George to the team as Sustainability Data Analyst. A recent Geography graduate from the University of Liverpool, Luke concentrates on data management for carbon accounting and reporting. Through sustainability newsletters, posters, and progress updates on campus initiatives, both inside and outside the classroom, Luke brings young, dynamic enthusiasm to our approach.

We have recently partnered with Earthchain, an AI assisted carbon accounting platform that enables us to view live data throughout the current accounting year. This allows us to upload and analyse data in real-time, enabling more time for action. In terms of energy, we have increased our potential solar generation to over 400,000 kWh per year. My thanks go to the Board of Governors for giving the go-ahead on such a fantastic development, which will reduce our National Grid reliance by 20% now and into the future. We hope to increase electricity generation and efficiency measures in the near future.

We are currently reviewing additional solar generation opportunities. Upgrading our main kitchen to electrical appliances will increase load requirements, and we have initial plans to add solar to the Christison Hall Roof as part of this programme. Other priority areas include travel, waste, and electricity efficiency measures. We have conducted commuting surveys on both pupils and staff to understand how our community travels to and from Dulwich. We are also probing our trips and expeditions across each academic year.

Regarding waste, reviewing solutions to increase recycling rates across campus and promote a circular economy. Additionally, we are looking into ways to reduce food waste through more efficient menu planning, purchasing and weight measurements. A special mention to Paul Purnell, Head of Grounds, for the planting of our wilding walk, native species and varied wildflowers that enhance the College throughout spring & summer. The planting of new trees, aligning with Southwark, we are aiming for 36% to 38% shade cover across campus, so students can enjoy the warm afternoons but be shaded from the Sun.



Katy Millis
Head of Sustainability at Dulwich College

About Us

Dulwich College is an academically selective independent boys' school in South London.

With over 1,900 pupils and more than 500 staff, we are a vibrant community comprising DUCKS, our co-educational Kindergarten and Infants' School, our Junior School for boys from seven to 11 years, and our Senior School, which includes the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools.



The College has four principal aims:

- To ensure that all our pupils feel equally secure and valued
- To offer academic challenges that enable all pupils to realise their potential
- To provide sporting, cultural, charitable, and adventurous engagement for all our pupils to enjoy and through which they can learn to work cooperatively and to lead
- To nurture a supportive, diverse and inclusive community that encourages a sense of social responsibility

We are an environmentally and socially responsible school, and we recognise that our activities, obligations, and operations affect people and the environment. We are committed to integrating sustainability into our operations and academic programmes, both inside and outside the classroom.

This marks the fifth year of reporting on Environmental Impact, which informs our Net Zero Strategy, developed by Inspired PLC. We have been reporting since 2020, providing detailed targets across all sectors and stakeholders for education, behavioural change, and progressive reductions in emissions.





Aim to reduce energy consumption, reducing emissions and costs.

Utility	FY2023	FY2024	% Change
Gas	6,745,171 kWh	5,884,734 kWh	-12.24%
Electricity	2,368,427 kWh	2,358,769 kWh	-0.42%

Since the last Environmental Impact Report, we have reduced our gas usage by 12.24% and our electricity usage by nearly 0.42%.

Completed Actions

- 3 solar PV installations across campus- reducing reliance on National Grid. In the first year, the different solar PV sites generated the following:
 - Laboratory: 30,418 kWh
 - Lord George: 76,706 kWh
 - Sports Centre: 123,884 kWh
- LED installations on lighting systems- we have replaced approximately 90% lighting with LEDs to date
- Passive Infrared Sensing (PIR) in effect in various buildings- reducing electricity consumption
- Working on the Building Management System (BMS) settings of timings and temperature to reduce consumption usage across campus

Short term goals:

- Continuing to work with maintenance on BMS, cutting gas usage across campus
- Continuing to install LEDs
- Implementing further solar PVs across campus

- Taking action based on Eniscope energy savings within the Sports Centre
- Implementing Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) for solar PV sites across campus

By complying with Streamlined Energy & Carbon Reporting (SECR), we annually report our energy consumption and carbon emissions. This keeps us transparent about our progress, which is clearly visualised each year, and helps us set targets for future achievements.

Another way we are lowering our energy consumption is through the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS). This involves an energy audit every four years, which highlights practical ways to cut energy use across our buildings, transport, and operations.



Aim to minimise water use across campus, reducing emissions and costs

Utility	FY2023	FY2024	% Change
Water	34,312 m³	32,450 m³	-5.42%

The College has installed automated meter reading on 75% of the meters, enhancing real-time invoicing and increasing visibility of our water usage across campus, highlighting leakage issues so that action can be taken.

The College has installed drinking fountains throughout campus, both indoors and outdoors, allowing pupils to bring reusable water bottles and stay hydrated during the peak of the hot weather, while also reducing plastic bottle waste on campus.

As summers become hotter, drier, and more intense, it is crucial to be aware of water use. This is why all sprinklers are on timers, watering fields during the coolest parts of the day, keeping the soil moist, and increasing infiltration rates rather than runoff. This will help to maintain fields in a suitable condition for sports to be played safely. These timings are rigorously planned, as each season presents new environmental challenges and shifts in weather patterns.

As water security becomes increasingly uncertain in the years to come, it is essential to plan for the future to ensure safe water access for all, maintain healthy ground, and preserve biodiversity.

Short-term goals:

- Setting water reduction targets
- Installing low-flow fixtures (water-saving taps, shower aerators, dual-flushing toilets)
- Completing installation of automated meter readings
- Investigating water capture from the drainage systems to reuse water from runoff and infiltration



Aim to dispose of all college waste responsibly and cost effectively

Waste management is a key aspect of Dulwich College's sustainability strategy, focusing on reusing where possible and reducing landfill waste.

Effective waste management is vital for Dulwich College's journey towards greater sustainability. By targeting food waste reductions, increasing recycling rates, and minimising general waste, we not only reduce emissions but also set an example for future generations on the importance of waste management, both as individuals and as a school community.

Completed Actions

Staff Communication

- 'DC Free' - An initiative aiming to promote a circular economy through material reuse within the college
- Reusing spare materials within the staff community:
 - » Bricks
 - » Cobbles
 - » Pallets
- Increasing communications to staff and pupils, for example:
 - » Stop Food Waste Day
 - » Sustainability newsletter

This increases familiarity with these issues, engaging pupil and staff bodies together to take collective actions to reduce waste across campus and beyond

Waste Management:

- As of 31st March 2025, new 'Simpler Recycling' rules have come into effect, aiming to separate different waste streams and increase recycling rates

- Terracycle- plastic packaging collected to be recycled & repurposed through Terracycle initiatives
- Food Waste collections- swapping to Southwark council food waste collections has saved money, which can be invested in other areas of sustainability
- Internal and external bin planning across campus- aiming to improve waste stream separation- roll out Summer 2026
- 5-year plan set- improving efficiency and separation of waste streams

Short term goals

- Starting campus-wide roll out on new bins, separating general waste, bottles, wrappers, cans, and food waste- aiming to increase recycling rates
- Composting scheme- can be used in grounds and gardens across campus
- Implementing the '1-2-3' system, which aims to reduce food waste from portion sizes
- Purchasing compactors for cardboard and general waste- reducing costs & emissions
- Enforcing a reusable cup scheme, reducing waste generated from the café and airstream on campus



"There is no Planet B"
by DC and JAGS Year 7



Travel

Aim to reduce energy consumption, reducing emissions and costs.

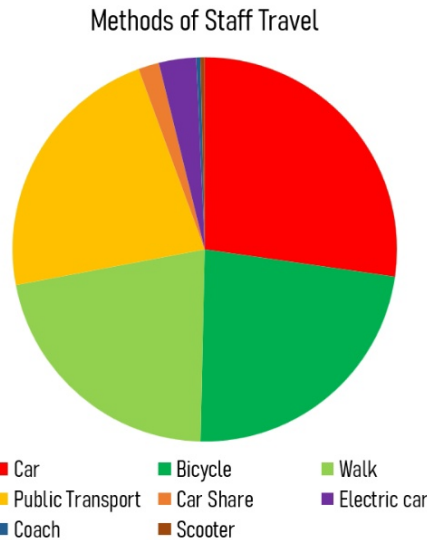
Completed Actions

- EV Charging points- Installed 18 EV charging points on campus to encourage staff to travel via electric cars
- Cycle to work scheme- The College offers a cycle to work scheme for staff to save money on bicycles, encouraging active transport
- Staff travel survey- In June 2025, we conducted a survey to track how staff travel to work. Here are the results:

Staff Transport	FY2023	FY2024	% Point Change	% Change
Car	31%	27%	-4%	-13%
Bicycle	25%	23%	-2%	-8%
Public Transport	16%	22%	6%	38%
Walk	22%	23%	1%	5%
Electric car	4%	3%	-1%	-25%
Other	2%	2%	0%	0%

As a result, we have reduced staff car commuting by 4%, increased public transport usage by 6%, and increased walking by 1%. Each of these changes plays a significant role over the course of a year in reducing commuting emissions to the college.

This survey collected staff postcode data to calculate commuting distances for each mode of transport, helping us understand the average distance travelled per method. It provides insights into where we can promote more sustainable travel options if staff live near public transport routes.



The table below displays student transportation methods, with the most recent student travel survey achieving an 83% response rate.

Transport Method	FY2023		% Point	% Change
Car	25%	22%	-3%	-12%
Bicycle	14%	15%	1%	7%
Public Transport	17%	17%	0%	0%
Walk	25%	31%	6%	24%
Electric car	13%	15%	2%	15%
Other	6%	0%	-6%	-100%

The student travel survey shows an increase in cycling, scooting, and public transport, with a reduction in coach services. This may be due to higher coach service costs, leading to more people choosing alternative methods.

However, the combined percentages of active transport and public transport total 63% in 2025, compared with 56% in the previous travel survey. This rise in active and public transport is significant, as it improves air quality, promotes physical activity, encourages independence and confidence among pupils, and greatly reduces carbon emissions.

For example, this 7-point change equates to roughly 123 pupils, leading to 246 fewer car journeys to the college each day, and about 44,800 fewer journeys by car over the course of a year.

This year's student travel survey results indicated that 25% of pupils use the Foundation Schools Coach Service. This service operates 29 routes to schools in Dulwich.

35% of surveyed students live within the four closest SE Postcodes, which is reflected in our results by the 17% of students who walk to school and 15% who cycle daily.

With such excellent rail links to both the borough of Bromley and to Victoria mainline station, 19% of our pupils travel by British Rail. 12% of the students travel to Dulwich using public bus services, whilst only 15% of parents drive and drop off their children at school.

TFL awarded the college a gold star accreditation, reflecting its efforts to promote active and public transport and reduce car use. This not only improves student health and wellbeing but also reduces local congestion and air pollution around Dulwich College.

Short term goals

- Reviewing travel on trips and expeditions
- Gathering accurate data for business travel
- Launching bike repair stations on campus

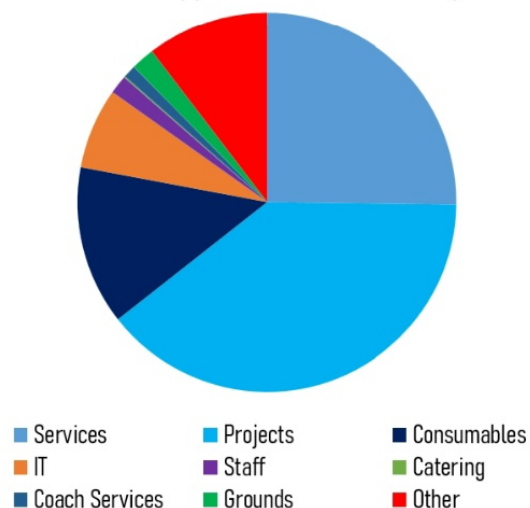


Supply Chain

Aim to achieve accuracy on CO₂ emissions from Scope 3 - Category 1 (Purchased Goods and Services) and Scope 3 – Category 2 (Capital Goods)

The following graph illustrates the services supplied to Dulwich College, categorised by expenditure area.

Services supplied to Dulwich College



The supply chain is an area we are aiming to become more sustainable in, as emissions related to goods and services (and capital goods) contribute to over 40% of Dulwich College's carbon emissions.

As part of this, we have engaged with our top 10 suppliers (based on expenditure). It is important to maintain close relationships with suppliers and to have conversations about our sustainability goals, as well as what we expect from our suppliers.

Completed Actions

- Review buying protocols - Environmental considerations are taken into account in the procurement process, and suppliers lacking commitment to sustainability should be excluded from contracts.
- Food suppliers' engagement - We have held initial conversations with key food suppliers, who represent a significant part of our spend and carbon footprint, discussing our goals for the future.
- New procurement team - 2 new staff members have formed a new procurement team, looking at key categories like consumables, uniforms, cleaning, furniture, etc. and ensuring sustainable decision-making in the process.
- Menu changes - We aim to reduce the carbon intensity of our menus through:
 - » 1 vegetarian day in each 3-week menu rotation (vegetarian options also available daily)
 - » Reducing the amount of red meat (e.g. beef) across the 3-week menu rotation:
 - ◇ Weekday lunch: 2 beef dishes down to 1
 - ◇ Boarders' meals: 4 beef dishes down to 2
- While some of Dulwich College's suppliers have moderate ESG performance, the majority of our suppliers are small or medium organisations, which means they are not required to report on their ESG performance. We have seen this as an opportunity to engage with suppliers and encourage sustainability within the business. We have taken the initiative and discussed our sustainability goals with our top 10 suppliers, outlining what we expect from them as we move closer towards achieving our objectives.

Short term goals

- 34% absolute reduction in scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions by FY2030, requiring further engagement and action with suppliers to implement actions to reduce their carbon emissions
 - » Working with suppliers to set net zero/ SBTi-aligned targets
 - » Capturing additional data and continuing to translate purchases or services to carbon emissions.
 - » In-setting- involving energy reduction activities at key suppliers' sites (e.g., solar PVs)





Aim to maximise the use of the grounds, becoming 'nature positive' through increased diversity of wildlife

As we aim to become more sustainable, this requires more than just reducing carbon emissions, as improved biodiversity has the power to support life, enhance wellbeing, improve air quality, and mitigate future risks.

Completed actions

Introduction of bug hotel in Junior School Garden

- Offering shelter for insects, acting as a habitat and breeding site.
- Using spare pallets and bricks to reduce waste, as well as increasing biodiversity and pollination, and educating pupils on the importance of insects and their role within ecosystems.

Forest school sessions at DUCKS

Offers pupils the chance to experience the natural world, growing in confidence and improving physical wellbeing

Wildflower walk

Rewilding sections:

- Our grounds team work hard at maintaining beautiful grounds, with the recent implementation of a 'wildflower walk'.
- Sections of this include areas left to rewild, which encourages plant and habitat development, resulting in improved pollination, reduced water management, and local cooling effects.
- Rewilding areas have more organic matter than cultivated soils, which improves soil structure, increasing infiltration, reducing run off- leading to flood prevention

Pond restoration

- On service day 2025, a team of ten Year 12 pupils supported by several staff members carried out restoration work around the mill pond off College Road
- This involved litter removal and vegetation clearing to improve the surrounding environment
- These efforts aimed to allow more light into the pond, encouraging aquatic plant growth and improved biodiversity

Chemical-free Grounds

- No synthetic pesticides, herbicides, or fertilisers are used on the grounds, leading to healthier soil structure, reduced water pollution, and allowing organisms to thrive, improving biodiversity

Each of these actions offers significant benefits for pupil and staff wellbeing, air quality, temperature regulation, and carbon sequestration. We recognise the importance of nature-based solutions, which will be essential in mitigating climate change in the future. By using platforms such as 'Tree Equity Score UK', we can visualise the canopy cover across our postcode (31%), with a target of 36%, which we aim to achieve by 2030. This will also provide benefits as summer heatwaves become not only more frequent but also more intense, offering shade and cooling effects for pupils and staff, thereby enhancing focus and well-being.

Short term goals

- Continue working with Dulwich estate on biodiversity project (e.g. the mill pond)
- Identify key tree species around campus
- Increase canopy cover in line with Southwark Council's target





Source	FY2023	FY2024	% Change
Natural Gas	1,202 tCO ₂ e	1,051 tCO ₂ e	-12.5%
Electricity	490 tCO ₂ e	488 tCO ₂ e	-0.3%
Transport	28 tCO ₂ e	31 tCO ₂ e	+9.4%
Other Fuels & Refrigerants	45 tCO ₂ e	43 tCO ₂ e	-4.6%
Total	1,765 tCO ₂ e	1,613 tCO ₂ e	-8.6%

Over the course of the year, we have successfully reduced our emissions from natural gas by 12.5%, representing a significant decrease. This has been achieved through improved heating controls via the BMS, resulting in reduced gas usage across campus.

Emissions from electricity have decreased by 0.3%, resulting in a reduction of 2 tCO₂e over the past year. This has resulted from the installation of three different solar PV systems across campus, reducing reliance on the grid. Actions such as installing LEDs, solar PVs, and communications to turn lights/ screens off when not in use have contributed to a reduction in electricity emissions.

Scope 3 Travel emissions account for a significant portion of our emissions, totalling over 3,318 tCO₂e (including Scope 3 Category 6 Business Travel and Scope 3 Category 7 Employee Commuting). This is over three times more than the emissions generated by gas annually, representing a target area to reduce in the near future. We will be exploring trips and travel, identifying locations to switch flights for trains, as well as swapping destinations for more local options.

We are also gathering data on boarding students' travel each half term, which we aim to improve the granularity of as we move forward.

Short term goals

- Looking into trips and travel destinations- reducing long-haul flights where possible
- Continuing to work on BMS to reduce emissions from gas
- Gathering more granular data on boarding travel





Sustainability in the Classroom

The College recognises its responsibility to educate and inspire pupils to understand the importance of sustainability in the modern world. Our goal is to foster a passion for the outdoors and a commitment to protecting it in the face of global challenges.

Pupils learn about specific aspects of sustainability in the curriculum, allowing them to gain a foundation in scientific and historical principles related to climate change. We

To address the major threats our planet faces, we must demonstrate innovative solutions that require a collective effort from pupils and staff. Consequently, we have increased communication about our sustainability initiatives, encouraging pupils to make greener choices in various areas, such as commuting to school, reducing meat consumption, conserving water, and recycling more.

Year 6 pupils were involved in sustainability presentations, selecting different social and environmental issues related to the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. This project empowers young pupils to highlight pressing environmental, social and ethical challenges, inspiring them to take action and create real change for a more sustainable future.

During Stop Food Waste Day, pupils at DUCKS created a tally chart to record which foods were most commonly wasted after lunch, and this data was reported back to the kitchen to inform actions that could reduce plate waste. Junior School pupils were also rewarded with 'clean plate' stickers for finishing their lunch.

A new sustainability prefect has been appointed, who plans to tackle food waste across the college by implementing a '1-2-3' system within the food hall. This system allows pupils to choose a small, medium, or large portion, with the hope that less waste will be generated by the end of each meal.

The new student sustainability committee met for the first time in June 2025, discussing a number of initiatives, concerns, and ideas that pupils have for the college to continue moving towards greener goals. This will be a half-termly meet, engaging with pupils on the actions we take, allowing pupils to have a voice in the sustainability of the college.

January 2025 marked the launch of 'Sustainability Spotlight', a monthly newsletter that showcases the college's green efforts. This initiative was designed to highlight the individual and group efforts of both staff and students, along with our operational activities, to reduce our environmental impact. Increasing communication across the college continues to be important as we move forward.





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