

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Last Review:	Rewrite
Approved Governors:	June 2022
Next Review:	June 2023

### Vision

Loreto College is centred in God, rooted in Christ and animated by the spirit of Mary Ward, the founder of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our vision is that it will be an educational community where each person has the experience of being loved and valued as a sacred individual created by a loving God; a community where students enjoy an enriching and liberating education that helps them grow into the fullness of life and empowers them to be men and women of courage who are alive to the needs of humanity and committed to making a better world.

### Introduction

The College aims to be an educational community which gives expression to the core values of Mary Ward - freedom, justice, sincerity, truth, joy, excellence and internationality. As Pope Francis says in his Encyclical Letter Laudato Si "Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded". He goes on to quote the Bishops of Southern Africa "Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation."

### Preamble

Loreto College strives to be a living Christian community informed by the special charism of Mary Ward enabling 'seekers of truth and doers of justice'. As Pope Francis says "intergenerational solidarity is not optional, but rather a basic question of justice, since the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us" This policy document details the commitment of Loreto College to play its part, however small, in the creation of a sustainable environment for present and future generations.

### 1. Scope

It is the intention that this policy should be made known to all staff and students. Where possible all staff should endeavour to apply its aims to all aspects of the College's operation and its delivery of the curriculum and associated services. Environmental issues impact on all activities of the College, and in particular on: property strategy, space utilisation and maintenance of the site; catering; energy management; use and recycling of paper and materials; health and safety, waste management; purchasing strategies and contractual arrangements; curriculum delivery; relationships and partnerships with others in the local community and transport.

## 2. Policy Statement

It is the policy of Loreto College to work towards a sustainable environment. In doing this the College will aspire to awareness and understanding of local, national and global environmental issues and, through its own practices, strive to conserve, sustain and improve the environment. It will set measurable targets and report on progress towards achieving them when it is realistic to do so.

The College will achieve this by:

2.1 Establishing a working group comprising staff and students with an interest in driving forward this policy.

2.2 Investigating improvements in energy savings and classroom utilisation to minimise its use of energy and scarce resources through good practice, prudent maintenance and use of energy efficient resources.

- Reduce gas consumption (KWh) by 15% by 2020 cf 2017
- Reduce electricity consumption (kWh) by 15% by 2020 cf 2017
- Reduce mains water usage by 15% by 2020 cf 2017

2.3 Removing material from the waste cycle, which can viably be recycled

- Increase facilities for recycling

2.4 Minimising pollution by ensuring all College equipment which uses fossil fuel is regularly serviced and maintained and that their emissions are checked

2.5 Using materials and equipment which minimise harm to the environment, and avoiding use of non-renewable resources where feasible.

2.6 Encourage an increase in cycling to college by staff and students

- Double the number of cycle racks in 2018
- Increase the number of students who cycle to college by 5% in 2018
- Increase the number of staff who cycle to college by 10% in 2018

2.7 Continually improving and maintaining the environment both within the College and, where appropriate, externally.

- Enhance the appearance of the gardens to encourage a wide range of flowers, plants and wildlife where appropriate

2.8 Reducing the use of paper by critically appraising the need for use and by double-sided copying and use of electronic mail and the intranet and other technology as far as practicable.

- Reduce paper usage by 15% by 2020 cf 2017
- Reduce postage costs by 15% by 2020 cf 2017

2.9 Including environmental, energy management and sustainable development issues in staff and student induction, training and curriculum delivery where appropriate thus ensuring that all are aware of the need to endeavour to apply in practice the aims of the environmental policy, particularly related to energy savings and recycling.

- Percentage of students that perceive they are gaining the skills and knowledge that are helping them understand key global sustainability issues

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Percentage of staff who feel that the college has provided opportunities that increase awareness and understanding of environmental sustainability</li></ul> |
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- 2.10 Maintaining the solar panels and rain harvesting system to ensure that they are working to maximum effect.
- 2.11 Committing funds to environmental improvements within the College, within budgetary constraints.
- 2.12 Ensuring that major contractors and suppliers to the College have an appreciation of sustainable development.
- 2.13 Linking with other organisations in the local community in dialogue and partnership to encourage and contribute to good environmental practice.
- 2.14 Ensuring compliance with any legal requirements concerning the environment, and working towards meeting government initiatives for a sustainable environment.

### **3. Monitoring**

The Assistant Principal (Finance & Resources) will be responsible for monitoring the environmental policy and reporting on it in the annual SAR.