



Climate and Biodiversity Policy Statement

THIS POLICY WAS AGREED BY EPA TRUST DIRECTORS ON:	September 2025
REVIEW DATE:	September 2026
CHAIR OF DIRECTORS: Julian Soanes	
CEO: David Brown	

EPA Trust (EPAT) is committed to provide high quality education in a sustainable and supportive environment.

Our Vision is to become a carbon neutral Trust by 2030 (contingent on external grant funding being sourced to achieve and support this), increasing biodiversity across our estate and beyond, engaging our local communities to join us in this target.

We will lead by example, modelling our behaviours, in running a sustainable trust, promoting and demonstrating our sustainability values. We will teach specific topics to raise awareness of climate and biodiversity issues and engage staff and students on how we are running the trust more sustainably.

In order to do this, we will focus on five key sustainability issues – energy, transport, waste, food and biodiversity. These will be addressed through the following actions: -

- Taking a prioritised approach to addressing and reducing the sustainability impacts of the EPAT and its schools, adopting best operational practices to get best value and biggest change for our students and colleagues;
- Measuring and acting to reduce the consumption of energy and water and the associated carbon footprint of our day-to-day operational activities in running the schools, putting on exhibitions and performances, and other activities;
- Setting a baseline through our obligation to Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) to monitor and evaluate our use of energy, water and waste generation in order to identify opportunities to be more efficient and reduce our impacts;
- Considering sustainability factors in EPAT planning and construction decisions and activities, giving due consideration to material consumption and energy performance in the design, refurbishment, and use of our new buildings, ensuring our buildings and services are adapted to climate change;
- Minimising the environmental impact of travel to our venues and business, engaging providers to invest in and promote lower carbon forms of travel;
- Minimising the amount of solid wastes produced by EPAT and its schools, following circular economy principles, increasing the amount we reuse and recycle;
- Reducing the impact of the food sourced and provided by the EPAT, both in terms of the production and transport impacts of the food, and minimising any wasted food;

- Enhancing the natural environment in and around the EPAT estate through biodiversity enhancements within school grounds and working in partnership with local nature recovery groups;
- Use an evidenced based approach to include sustainability issues, such as climate change and ethical sourcing, as part of criteria used when procuring goods and services;
- Engaging our students, their families, employees, volunteers, partners and other stakeholders about what the EPAT is doing to address its sustainability impacts and encouraging them to likewise conduct their activities in a sustainable manner;
- Supporting our employees and students, through learning, training and other means, to participate in the delivery of this approach.