

# Environmental Policy

*Excellence • Sustainability • Innovation • Passion*

### **Our Mission**

Raising Aspirations, Unlocking Potential, Advancing Futures

### **Our Values**

Excellence, Passion, Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation,  
Sustainability, Valuing Others and Supportiveness

### **Sparsholt College Group**

The Sparsholt College Group (the College Group) includes Sparsholt College, Andover College, University Centre Sparsholt, Sparsholt College Services, Westley Enterprises and Andover Town Football Club. College Group policies apply to each part of the group unless specified otherwise.

The *Environmental Policy* was approved by the Board of Governors in December 2021. This supersedes the previous publication and is effective from 9 December 2021.

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## 1. Introduction

Sparsholt College Hampshire (the College) is a further and higher education college which provides learners with expert staff and the best training facilities in order to prepare them for workplace occupations or progression to Higher Education. The College Group includes the Sparsholt College campus, University Centre Sparsholt and the Andover College campus. Andover College is a Tertiary facility providing a combination of 6<sup>th</sup> form (A-Level) and vocational subjects delivered through structured teaching and tutorial programmes.

## 2. Policy Statement

The College is committed to operating all its activities in a sustainable manner through minimising the adverse impact of its activities on the environment and promoting sound environmentally sustainable principles and practice through the delivery of its curriculum offer.

The College incorporates the principles of sustainability, one of its key values, into its curriculum to increase awareness and understanding of environmental issues and subsequent solutions. The College is committed to the prevention of pollution and the continual improvement of its environmental performance by reducing its impacts on the environment.

The College ensures that all activities comply with relevant environmental legislation and other requirements to which the organisation subscribes. The policy will provide the basis for certification to the international standard Environmental Management System ISO 14001:2015. The College will comply with, or where possible exceed, the requirements prescribed by ISO 14001:2015. The College Environmental Management System, designed in alignment with college activities provides a framework for setting, achieving and reviewing the set environmental objectives and targets. In conjunction with the EMS, the Climate Action Roadmap provides a framework of initiatives for achieving the following sustainability pledges and commitments:

- Reach net zero carbon emissions for scope 1 and 2 by 2030.
- Undertake significant work to understand and reduce scope 3 emissions by 2030, and develop an action plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040.
- Integrate sustainability considerations into all organisational decisions.
- Ensure that our staff and students have the opportunity to undertake education for sustainable development

The College is committed to providing appropriate resources to allow these objectives, pledges and commitments to be met.

The purpose of this Environmental Policy is to:

- Reduce incidents which might harm the environment and for which the College may be in contradiction of its legal requirements.
- Reduce the consumption of raw materials and energy.
- Help to provide a better environment for future generations.
- Continue to make the College an attractive institution for study and business.
- Assure students and staff of the commitment of the College to implement responsible environmental management.

### **3. Policy Implementation**

In order to progress toward and meet the criteria of a Leading College on the Climate Action Roadmap, the College has categorised initiatives under the following headings with leads for each category assigned.

#### **3.1. Leadership and Governance**

SLT with governor engagement will drive progress by setting targets, incorporate ambitions into the strategic plan and climate responsibility into staff development. SLT to fund student focused climate engagement programmes and recognise sustainable behaviours.

#### **3.2. Teaching, Learning and Research**

Training delivered to staff and students covering carbon literacy, climate change/environmental issues and support to incorporate the SDGs/use the SDG framework into the curriculum (including apprenticeships). Future planning identifies courses and skills that may become redundant. Consultation and collaboration with students and local organisations to provide meaningful experimental opportunities.

#### **3.3. Research and Knowledge Exchange**

To identify opportunities for minimising carbon emissions in research activities and supporting initiatives that provide opportunities for carbon management, climate mitigation and adaptation. To work with commerce and industry to support a transition to a low carbon economy.

#### **3.4. Data Collection and Campus Management**

College carbon footprint measured using existing data. To develop and implement a plan to measure Scope 3 emissions and sharing data collection methodology with other colleges.

#### **3.5. Estates and Operations**

To implement strategies to set targets to reduce energy use and incorporate renewable energy and waste reduction. To develop sustainable transport and energy plans and reviewing procurements policies, buildings and biodiversity.

### **3.6. Partnerships and Engagement including Community Engagement**

To negotiate with campus food suppliers to supply sustainable food options, encouraging uptake of sustainable options. Signing accords, joining climate action networks, empowering students to engage in climate action and partnering with local community to improve local biodiversity.

### **3.7. The College Green Group**

The College Green Group, consisting of staff and student members will be the team involved in the policy implementation. Through the College Green Group Terms of Reference, all members of the college will be encouraged to engage with and support the aim and objectives of the Climate Action Roadmap and the EMS. Sub-contractors and visitors will be required to adhere to the Environmental Policy.

### **3.8. Staff Communication**

The College communicates its Environmental Policy to staff and students through the Induction process, through the College's sustainability SharePoint (and through the Virtual Learning Environment, MS Teams or Office 365) and it is made publicly available via the College Group websites ([www.sparsholt.ac.uk](http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk) and [www.andover.ac.uk](http://www.andover.ac.uk)).