

Sparsholt College Group Sustainability Strategy

Achieved [2021-2024]

1. Climate Education

- Staff induction Sustainability module for 'new staff' - developed and delivered
- Sustainability CPD for all staff (building on 'new staff' induction model)
- Curriculum area sustainability working group established
- Integration of the sustainability agenda and SDGs within the tutorial programme to raise awareness and understanding.
- Engage learners in meaningful social action projects which focus on the green agenda and connects learners to wider societal responsibilities.
- Student Social action projects embedded into weekly duties activities
- Curriculum engagement in local biodiversity projects
- Placed sustainability at the heart of the Student Council agenda (including leading on initiatives throughout the student community)
- Study+ offer incorporates sustainability awareness and initiatives
- Embedded a review of sustainability considerations within lesson delivery as part of the TALO process

2. Green Skills

- Delivery of a comprehensive land-based curriculum offer which prepares learners for career paths that support the transition to net zero, restoration of biodiversity and a sustainable future
- Installation of electric vehicle demonstration and teaching technologies (Andover)
- Installation of robotic milking parlour and Agri-Technology to enable research into livestock methane emissions
- Curriculum offer developed and delivered in Electric vehicle technology, Heat Pump systems and Solar PV Systems (Andover)

3. Education Estate and Digital Infrastructure

- New property strategy developed which embeds climate change considerations within capital investment decision making
- Reduced Scope 2 (energy indirect) emissions by c.28% from the base year 2017/18 through energy efficiency initiatives and raising awareness.
- Reduced water emissions by further 10% through increased leak detection, water harvesting, using meters for raising awareness and water saving devices to reduce consumption
- New buildings are built to BREEAM standards with excellent as the target
- Investigated and costed installation of air source heat pump on main admin building and main teaching block. Recommendation for thermal insulation vs ASHP
- All Andover boilers replaced with grade A
- Planning consent to install a green digester at Sparsholt campus.
- 500 KW of Photovoltaics installed providing c20% of our electrical supply
- Monitoring systems installed on water consumption (leak detection)
- Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) produced with priority actions identified
- LED lighting installed on both the Sparsholt and Andover campus
- Building management system (BMS) installed on small number of SCH buildings and all new builds
- Installation of 10 new ponds on SCH campus to promote further insect, amphibian, and bird life
- Well established diverse habitats including an area of wetland, 1 hectare lake, 2 hectares of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland managed for conservation and diversity
- Multiplicity of ornamental tree and shrub variety and garden plants on the campuses
- On-site College apiary re-established
- All remaining boilers replaced with grade A boilers at Sparsholt
- Installation of robotic dairy to improve health in cattle and research feed additives to reduce methane emissions
- Replacement of Floodlighting to LED
- Participation in Countryside Stewardship Scheme focusing on improving the biodiversity of the farm estate

4. Operations and Supply Chains

- SECR data published annually
- Report and manage climate change impact in Strategic Risk Management Plan
- E-tendering system for procurement
- All electric supply is green
- All mains gas supply is from green energy supplier
- Transition to 'green fleet' of college vehicles
- Installation of EV charging points
- Zero land fill waste contractor
- All contractors must have green incentives or quality assurances
- Move to Meadow foods for milk sales and accredited to sustainable milk production programme.
- Re-accredited to Red Tractor sustainable farming
- Catering switch to veg-based packaging.
- Reduction in paper and printing consumption (migrate to electronic forms and resources)
- Car share policy for staff
- LGPS Pension investments- environmental/ethical investment strategy.

5. International

- Annual Sparsholt Futures event showcasing green technologies to school children
- Gifted & Talented Sustainability Project delivered to Year 10 learners from Andover schools
- Creation of Sustainability Pyramid with Winchester primary and secondary schools
- Hosted a sustainability 'Dragon's Den' event bringing together ideas to promote sustainability
- International trips and study tours incorporate sustainability learning objectives

Planned [2025-2030]

[2025-2026]

1. Climate Education

- Implement the Equine Centre Carbon Calculator project.
- Continue to engage learners with the countryside stewardship program at Sparsholt campus
- Appoint learner sustainability ambassadors to represent each curriculum area
- Showcase the impact of biodiversity actions taken across the College estate
- Host a sustainability conference to enable learners to showcase their projects to local secondary schools
- Showcase the College's sustainability actions both internally and externally

2. Green Skills

- Refresh ISVC courses and migrate to in-house platform
- Work with industry and academic partners to explore, develop and promote methods of supporting food security through research and innovation
- Develop key strategic partnerships in green skills sectors
- Host a careers event in each priority sector which showcases green skills

3. Education Estate and Digital Infrastructure

- Explore Wind Turbine energy generation in partnership with College's energy advisor
- Development of Climate Adaptation Risk Assessment and Action Plan
- Development of phased delivery plan in response to the Heat Decarbonization Report
- Review trees species and condition on both campuses to develop a replacement programme where needed to diversify and safeguard tree stock
- Continue to enhance use of solar energy
- Explore potential for further rainwater harvesting on campus

4. Operations and Supply Chains

- Continue to explore energy efficiency benefits on procurement on replacement/ new equipment across the Group
- Continue to ensure our investments and pension strategies align with green ambitions
- Continue to work closely with supply partners to drive green initiatives
- Carbon sequestration (carbon credit) – use of estate planting strategy
- Reduction in reprographic costs of 10% per department

5. International

- All learners partaking in a study tour will complete a project to collectively offset their travel carbon footprint
- Develop fundraising activities to support the Bees Abroad charity
- Expand Winchester Sustainability pyramid to Andover secondary schools

[2026-2029]

- Fully embed the sustainability agenda into the college curriculum and core business activities
- Develop full suite of courses which support advancement of the transition to net zero and restoration of biodiversity
- Reduce carbon emissions
- Reduce water consumption
- Ensure full migration of college vehicle fleet to electric-power
- Fully implement the Carbon Reduction Plan

[2030]

- Reach net zero carbon emissions for scope 1 and 2
- Undertake significant work to understand and reduce scope 3 emissions by 2030, and develop an action plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040