

GOV02 – Environment Policy

Policy Family:	Corporate Governance and Legal Framework
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Responsible Manager:	Safety, Health & Environment Manager
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Impact Assessment Status: In preparing the Policy, any potential disproportionate impact it might have upon individuals with protected characteristics, as defined in the Equality Act 2010, have been carefully considered. It is the conclusion of the College Group that the Policy does not adversely impact on individuals with any of the protected characteristics.

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Aim

Reduce, where practicable, the College Group's impact on the local & global environment.

Chesterfield College Group must acknowledge its share of responsibility for taking care of its local environment and is committed to a sustainable approach to a better quality of life through:

- Social progress that recognises the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of high levels of economic growth
- *"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."* (Brundtland Report 1987)

The College is supported by the Safety Health and Environment (SHE) Department and the Health and Safety Committee, who will take responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of this policy, reporting to the Senior Management Team and annually through the Health & Safety Committee to the Corporation. The SHE Department and the Health and Safety Committee will seek ways to reduce the impact of Chesterfield College on the local and global environment through ensuring that the principles of sustainability are entrenched into the College ethos.

Scope

This policy and associated operating procedures apply to Chesterfield College, which includes Learning Unlimited, and to our subsidiary companies; Training Services 2000 Ltd (LU Derby), Learning Unlimited ATA Ltd, Recruit Unlimited Ltd and Chesterfield College Enterprises Ltd.

The Environment Policy and Management System are intended to cover all Chesterfield College Group businesses and locations and are generated to offer guidance to all departments, staff, students, suppliers, and contractors.

Policy Statements

The Chesterfield College Group is committed to continually improving our environmental performance, preventing pollution and increasing the positive impact occurring as a result of our activities. We will strive to meet and where possible, exceed applicable environmental legislation.

To implement this Policy, the Chesterfield College Group is committed to:

- Having an established Green Skills Strategy Group, which leads on progress against the Further Education Climate Action Roadmap.
- Implementing and operating an appropriate environmental management system.

- Setting and monitoring environmental objectives and targets in order to reduce environmental impact.
- Integrating environmental considerations into College decision making at all levels.
- Consulting with students, employees and suppliers on environmental issues.
- Ensuring that students, apprentices and staff understand how their practice interrelates with Green Skills development, developing the knowledge, skills, values, and attributes to contribute positively to the environmental sustainability agenda.
- Developing procurement policies that address environmental issues relating to our suppliers and the products we purchase.
- Formally reviewing the Environmental & Sustainability Policy at regular intervals, updating where required and communicate to external companies, agencies and the general public as required.
- Provide training to employees as appropriate on environmental awareness.
- Assign environmental responsibility to appropriate personnel throughout the Chesterfield College Group.

Environmental responsibilities are assigned at all levels.

Responsibility begins with the Principal and CEO and cascades through the Senior Management Team (SMT) to the College Management Team (CMT). It continues through all departments and passes to all employees, students and visitors to the College.

Contractors are required to follow the College’s Environmental Policy and will be monitored by the relevant member of staff assigned with that responsibility.

J Richards

Signed: _____ Date: 10/12/25

Principal / Chief Executive Officer

Implementation

The SHE Department, the Health and Safety Committee and the Senior Management Team will:

1. Examine ways to reduce the environmental impact of the College Group regarding:
 - a. Consumables (especially paper)
 - b. Energy
 - c. Water
 - d. Waste
2. Seek ways to promote the positive ecological use of the College grounds.
3. Ensure the College's Property Strategy embraces opportunities for sustainable developments.
4. Promote a sustainable and environmental purchasing policy.
5. Seek ways of reducing the environmental impact of travel to and from the College.
6. Investigate and develop ways of raising the environmental consciousness of the whole College community.
7. Ensure that curriculum is designed to embody and map across the 17 Sustainability Development Goals

All stakeholders who have a genuine commitment to improving the College environment and can make a positive contribution will be encouraged to communicate with the SHE Department.

Management system:

The College Group will endeavour to manage the Environmental Policy and its subsequent activities, in a manner that will work in harmony with other College Group standards.

BS EN ISO14001:2004 (Environmental Management Systems standard) will be used as a reference to achieve our targets and goals. The College Group will also benchmark against other educational institutions in search of best practice.

Legislation:

The SHE Department and the Green Skills Strategy Group will monitor and make the College aware of any relevant legislation and / or local by-laws that we need to work within and make recommendations on how that should be done.

Key Focus

The Senior Management Team and Green Skills Strategy Group will maintain a key focus on achieving a reduction in:

1. Waste to landfill (by separation of waste etc.)
2. Energy consumption (Electricity and Gas)
3. Water consumption
4. Paper usage
5. Harmful transmissions to atmosphere

Decision making:

The effect we have, or may have in the future, on our working, local, National and Global environment should be considered in any decision made by the College. Whether that is around sustainable materials for building projects, purchasing products from sustainable sources, separating waste or simply sharing a car with a colleague etc.; we can all have an effect. (NB: the best choice for the environment may not be the cheapest in the short term)

Procurement:

This aims to ensure that our commitment to the environment and to sustainability is not compromised by buying products from or dealing with companies who have no such commitments.

To meet this aim the College will seek to purchase from and deal with businesses that have their own environmental policy. This may include:

1. Suppliers providing their environmental policy as a condition of submitting a tender to the College Group.
2. The College Group may look to only purchase paper, wood or wood products from companies that have a Timber Buying Policy that ensures that all wood and paper products come either from proven, well-managed forests or recycled materials (e.g., The Forestry Stewardship Council [FSC] etc.).
3. Wherever possible the College Group will use local companies for all purchases, contracts etc. to reduce the impact of transport on the environment.
4. The College Group may give preference to bids, depending on the cost implication, for the grounds contracts to companies who have a policy which commits them to using biodegradable cleaning and environmentally friendly products

The procurement team will refer to this Policy in conjunction with their department procedures.

Transport:

Chesterfield College will endeavour to reduce the impact on the local environment of travel to and from Chesterfield College by students, staff and visitors by suggesting and / or offering our recommendations. These would include initiatives to:

- Encourage the use of College and public transport systems
- Encourage those who use cars to 'share' wherever possible
- Promote the use of cycling through 'cycle to work' schemes and / or cycle hire options and the provision of cycle sheds
- Involve Students and Staff in identifying further options

Communication Flow

Awareness and responsibility:

An Environment Management System is outlined as part of the SHE manual and is available to all staff. This is complimented by the activity of the Green Skills Strategy Group and the progress against the Climate Action Roadmap.

The SHE Department and the Green Skills Strategy Group will endeavour to raise awareness across the College Group through education and awareness raising activity.

Progress towards achieving the Sustainability Development Goals is monitored by the Green Skills Strategy Group, with appropriate updates shared with the College Management Team.

The college encourages all job descriptions to include a commitment to sustainable practices.

Monitoring

Audit and review:

The established EMS system will be audited on a regular basis to ensure compliance and to seek out areas for improvement. Non-conformances (NC) will generate a plan to ascertain the route cause and corrective actions required.

This Policy will be reviewed bi-annually unless significant legislative changes require earlier review.

Associated Information and Guidance

- Environmental Management System
- Safety & Health Manual
- Environment Manual
- www.HSE.gov.uk
- www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- www.chesterfield.gov.uk/health-and-environment.aspx
- [Climate Action Roadmap](#)
- [EAUC Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges](#)

Related Chesterfield College Group Policies and Documents

- [CC-SHE 7 Environment Management System](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.2 EMS Requirements](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3 Environmental Aspects](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1 Environmental Aspects summary](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1a Aspects register 1 - PM](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1a Aspects register 2 - RM](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1a Aspects register 3 - WA](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1a Aspects register 4 - EN](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1a Aspects register 5 - SUN](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.3.1b Aspects Action plan](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.4 Environment Legal & other requirements](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.4.1 Environment Legal Register](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.5 EMS objectives targets and goals](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.6 EMS competence and training](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.7 Communication external](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.7 Communication internal](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.8 Control of documents](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.9 Emergency preparedness](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.10 Monitoring & Evaluation](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.10.1 Non-conformity& corrective actions](#)
- [CC-SHE 7.11 Management review](#)
- [CC-SHE 8.1 Spill control](#)
- [CC-SHE 8.2 Disposal of waste](#)