

Bloomsbury Colleges Environmental Policy Statement

The Bloomsbury Colleges are committed to the responsible use of energy, water and other resources with the aim of minimising any negative impacts on the environment whilst maintaining operational goals and an acceptable working/living environment for staff and students.

The colleges are committed to continuous improvement in environmental performance, achieving best practice benchmark standards for higher education establishments wherever practicable. The colleges are committed to meeting, and where possible exceeding, all relevant environmental legislative and other requirements.

To this end the colleges will provide senior level commitment, an appropriate management structure and cost-effective resources to achieve these standards which will contribute to environmental improvement and long term sustainability, including:

- implementing a formal environmental management system and controls¹
- reducing the use of natural resources and the emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂)
- promoting environmentally responsible procurement of goods and services
- minimising waste production and reducing the environmental consequences of waste through re-use and re-cycling
- avoiding or limiting wherever practical the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes
- preventing pollution where possible and reducing pollution through the responsible management of toxic, chemical and hazardous waste;
- minimising any adverse environmental impact of new development
- recognising the benefit of green spaces and working to enhance the ecological value of the estate
- communicating within the Bloomsbury Colleges and to the outside community on environmental performance and best practice

This policy is supported by specific policies and targets within the individual Bloomsbury Colleges.

This policy will be made available to staff, students, and the community and will be part of a broader campaign to promote awareness and understanding of environmental issues.

This policy will be reviewed annually. The Environmental Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy, supported by the Environmental Management System Implementation Project Board.

Birkbeck College

Institute of Education

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

School of Oriental and African Studies

¹ The Bloomsbury Colleges are working towards certification to the international Environmental Management System standard ISO14001 using the BS8555 phased approach.

School of Pharmacy



Bloomsbury Colleges Sub Policies to the Shared Environmental Policy

The Project Board and the Environment and Sustainability Committees within each institution will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the following policies in support of the Bloomsbury Colleges shared Environmental Policy. This includes the monitoring of specific targets outlined in the policies.

The detailed policies will each include a comprehensive communications programme to encourage best practice behaviour across the Colleges.

1 Purchasing Policy

The Bloomsbury Colleges recognise the impact of its purchasing decisions on the environment and as such, is committed to

- promoting environmentally responsible procurement of goods and services. To procure goods and services from organizations who demonstrate a positive commitment to sustainability where it is practical and cost effective to do so, and to influence the procurement strategies of consortia of which the Colleges are members
- applying principles of sustainability and fair trade as important criteria in the choice of suppliers of goods and services to the Colleges

Specifically the Colleges will

- establish systems for monitoring CO₂ emissions from procured goods and services by February 2012
- use recognised agreements such as LUPC where possible to ensure supplier responsibility
- research sustainable products with a view to adding 1 new recommendation per year to purchasing standard recommendations for example 'A' rated equipment or sustainable building materials

2 Travel Policy

The Colleges are committed to reducing the use natural resources and the emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) relating to College activities through staff and student travel, in particular from air travel.

Specifically the Colleges will

- encourage an increase in cycle parking provision
- take environmental considerations into account when purchasing or leasing fleet vehicles
- establish systems for monitoring all business travel by 2013

- encourage the use of teleconferencing facilities to allow staff to avoid unnecessary travel
- encourage physical activity through promotion of walking and cycling including the provision of interest free bicycle purchase loans, participating in a cycle to work cycle hire scheme, and providing shower and locker facilities for cyclists
- encourage more staff to use public transport through the provision of interest free season ticket loans.
- monitor parking permit allocations to ensure that no further permits are allocated unless justification is provided from Sept 2012

3 Energy Policy

The Colleges are committed to reducing the use natural resources and the emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) relating to College activities including the use of energy. This commitment and specific targets are outlined in full in the schools Carbon Management Plans for each of the Colleges as follows:

- 80% reduction in carbon emissions from scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2050
- At least 43% reduction in carbon emissions from scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2020
- 20% reduction in carbon emissions from scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2015
- 15% reduction in carbon emissions from scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2012
- Improvement in DEC score of buildings year on year
- fitting energy saving devices such as sensor lighting in all refurbishments as standard from 2011 and ensuring regular maintenance to prevent leakage and drips
- reviewing available technologies for energy saving and assessing their feasibility for use in the Colleges

4 Waste and Recycling Policy

The Colleges recognise the impact of its waste on the environment and is committed to minimising waste production and to reduce the environmental consequences of waste through re-use and re-cycling.

Specifically the Colleges will

- establish waste management guidance and systems for monitoring waste production by the college and its levels of re-cycling by autumn 2011
- increase the proportion of waste which is re-cycled in order to reduce 1 landfill bin by 2015
- achieve year on year reductions in total waste volumes in order to reduce 1 bin by 2015
- make recycling facilities available in all core public areas where largest waste volumes are based (canteen/library) by September 2011, in all public areas by September 2012 and on request in offices with a view to being in easy reach of all offices by September 2013.
- remove all personal office general waste desk bins by December 2013
- ensure that no general or recyclable waste is sent from the school to landfill by 2015

5 Food Policy

Through its Procurement Policy the Colleges are committed to applying principles of sustainability and fair trade as important criteria in the choice of suppliers of goods and services to the Colleges, including catering and hospitality services. Within catering and hospitality services the Colleges will

- achieve and maintain Fairtrade accreditation for the Colleges from April 2012
- sign up to the sustainable fish cities campaign in 2011 and committing to ensure that all fish served through catering onsite is sustainably sourced by 2012
- not provide bottled water in hospitality services by September 2012
- serving Fairtrade tea and coffee in hospitality services by September 2012
- ensuring that meat, eggs and dairy products meet food welfare standards such as Red Tractor

6 New Build and Building Refurbishment Policy

The Colleges are committed to minimizing any adverse environmental impact of any new development. To design in energy efficiency to all new buildings, refurbishments and equipment. The Colleges will ensure that whenever new build is commissioned or existing stock refurbished, work is planned and executed in a manner which reflects environmentally-responsible approaches defined by the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method. As well as requirements for energy efficiency, this entails the use of sustainably-produced building materials and methods of construction which make optimum use of resources.

The Colleges shall

- endeavour for all new building and refurbishment works from 2011 onwards to achieve a minimum BREEAM standard of "Very Good"
- seek 80% materials reclaim and recovery for all new building and refurbishment works from 2011 onwards

7 Biodiversity Policy

The Colleges sites are part of the University of London and external areas are the responsibility of the University of London. The Colleges will support the University of London in protecting and promoting the biodiversity of this local area by actively avoiding or limiting wherever practical the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes, preventing pollution where possible and reducing pollution through the responsible management of toxic, chemical and hazardous waste. In addition, the Colleges will assess their potential influence by

- conducting a biodiversity audit for the Bloomsbury site by March 2012

8 Water Policy

The Colleges are committed to reducing the use natural resources and the emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) relating to College activities including the use of water. The main used of water within the Colleges have been identified as kitchen and domestic use and laboratories, specifically the use of autoclaves. The Colleges will actively seek to reduce its water consumption, including

- fitting water saving taps in all refurbishments as standard from 2011 and ensuring regular maintenance to prevent leakage and drips
- reviewing available technologies for water saving and assessing their feasibility for use in the School
- reducing relative water consumption by 5-10% in 2015 based on a 2011-12 baseline (or earlier if available) taken from Estates Management Statistics data as appropriate

In addition to the targets set out above the Colleges are committed to implementing an externally certified Environmental Management System by June 2013 and to incorporating sustainability into the curriculum where possible,