ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY	
Approved by: Finance and Resources Committee	
Date approved: 25 April 2017	
Strategy/Policy Responsibility: Chief Operating Officer	
Review date: 1 April 2019	

**Changing lives.
Creating futures**

Environmental and Sustainability Policy

1. **PURPOSE**
   The College believes that it has a responsibility to care for and protect the environment in which it operates. We are fully committed to improving environmental performance across all of our business activities, and we encourage our business partners and community to join in the effort.

2. **SCOPE**
   This Policy applies to all staff, students and wider community at the College.

3. **KEY AIMS**

3.1 Leadership and Management

- Promote and support sustainable development principles across the organisation

  o Strategic planning

  o Estates and Resources

  o Curriculum

  o Targeted Staff CPD

- Encourage sustainable procurement to reduce the environmental impact of the College's activity and maximise the use of existing resources.

- Embed sustainability into the strategic planning processes and monitor progress through the College's Health & Safety Committee.

- Improve awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development in the College and encourage students to be active participants in environmental initiatives.

- Work with the local community, public and private sector organisations to assist in improvements to the local environment and promote sustainable development.

3.2 Estates and Infrastructure

- Monitor and reduce energy usage and implement long term strategies for energy efficiency into the planning and development of the estate and infrastructure.

- Monitor and reduce water consumption.

- Embed the principles of sustainability in the design of new building and systems.

- Ensure all developments achieve a Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) rating of very good.

- Promote the use of sustainable methods of transport by encouraging staff and students to use Public Transport, car share and cycle to travel to and from College.

- Monitor and reduce the volume of waste produced and increase the recycling of materials, disposing of all waste in a safe and responsible manner including WEEE.

- To utilise print controls and VLE technologies to reduce and sustain the level of printing across the College.

- Promote and communicate environmental and sustainability initiatives to staff and students to raise awareness and help meet the responsibilities of this policy.

3.3   Curriculum Activities

- To raise students' awareness of environmental issues through incorporation of material on environment and sustainable development into programmes of study and enrichment activities.

- Encourage students to participate in environmental projects.

- Actively encourage a culture where students and staff respect their college environment and assist in meeting its environmental responsibilities.

4.   MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

4.1   Health and Safety Committee

- The Committee will monitor the implementation of the College's Environmental and Sustainability Policy and promote good practice.

- Updates on environmental matters will be included within the annual Health and Safety report to Governors.

- The Committee will be informed of environmental performance and related matters.

- The Committee will monitor its area of responsibilities and report any environmental issues that may arise.

5. IMPLICATIONS FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT OR RESOURCES

Potential increases in operational costs

- The cost associated with recycling some waste can be more expensive than sending the waste to landfill sites.

- The initial cost of energy efficient initiatives can be higher but offset by the reduction in utility costs and environmental impact.