

Environmental Policy

The Hive provides memorable, first-hand experiences of nature that educate and inspire climate action in everyone; developing respect and understanding of the natural world and empowering staff and visitors to make positive behaviour changes to tackle the climate emergency.

We recognise that our activities have the potential for both positive and negative impacts upon the environment at local, national and global levels. The Hive acknowledges its responsibility for environmental protection, reducing carbon emissions and promoting positive environmental sustainability aspects of teaching and learning.

We recognise that we have a particular duty to prepare children and young people with the knowledge and skills to look after our planet, to make informed decisions about carbon usage and make a positive contribution by improving their local area. We therefore aim to develop good habits and behaviour patterns amongst both The Hive staff and service users.

The Hive commits itself to:

- **Communicate its environmental policy and strategy** to staff and service users and to raise awareness amongst these groups of their own environmental responsibilities and requirement to commit to environmental improvements;
- **Protect, develop & enhance natural habitats** and encourage local wildlife and biological diversity of the Centre's managed land;
- **Implement measures to encourage** walking, cycling and the use of public transport to access the site;
- **Reduce waste** created and where possible to reuse and recycle before responsible disposal of surplus materials. Use recycled and recyclable materials wherever possible;
- **Manage and reduce water consumption** through the use of water harvesting from our buildings and water saving devices;
- **Integrate principles of environmental sustainability** within all teaching & learning, policies and practices, including those relating to procurement of goods and services;
- **Avoid or limit the use of environmentally-damaging** substances, materials and processes wherever practical;
- **Work with partners** to realise environmental projects.

Progress on implementing all areas of the policy and the Environmental Sustainability Strategy will be reviewed annually by The Hive staff. The policy itself is subject to annual review. Review date September 2023.