

Environmental and Sustainable Development Strategy

Links to other policies:

- [Accommodation and Facilities Strategy](#)
- [Curriculum Strategy](#)
- [Visitor Policy](#)

1 Executive Summary

The College is committed to promoting environmental sustainability, where the needs of the present do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, and is committed to the dual ethos of sustainability and responsible global citizenship.

The College recognises that its activities may have effects on sustainability and will ensure legislative compliance, and where practicable, exceed this minimum requirement by incorporating sound sustainability management practices into all aspects of College operations.

The College has a major role to play in building the capacity of its students, staff and local communities to effectively participate in translating the rhetoric of sustainable development into reality. Of particular significance is the sector's role in facilitating social inclusion, sustainable regional development and responsible global citizenship.

This strategy document details the commitment of Craven College to energy savings and a sustainable environment through the three themes of *Curriculum*, *Campus* and *Community*. It will be published on the Staff Intranet, the student VLE and the College website and will be referred to in the Visitor Guidelines for visitors and others accessing the College. Where possible staff should endeavour to apply its aims to all aspects of the College's operation and its delivery of the curriculum and associated services.

2 Context

Over many years the world population has increasingly been living in an unsustainable way. Sustainable development is a response to addressing these issues and can also bring about significant savings in terms of efficiencies and costs. Environmental issues impact on all activities of the College, and in particular on its curriculum and its property strategy. The College will:

- recognise that the minimum acceptable level of environmental performance is that stipulated in environmental legislation
- set clear environmental aims, actions and targets and monitor progress

3 The Strategy

Key Principles – Sustainable Curriculum

Education for Sustainable Development is the key to people acquiring the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future. The College recognises its responsibilities to increase awareness of environmental and sustainable development responsibilities among staff and students and aims to incorporate sustainable development skills and knowledge into all students' programmes. In promoting and developing environmental sustainable development, the College will:

- develop curriculum in the growth area of the sustainable energy sector, as well as in other areas where sustainable development is growing within the economy (such as tourism, transport, construction and business)
- use both the curriculum and CPD to promote and practise knowledge, attitudes and skills that enable individuals to make informed decisions relating to the impact of their actions on the environment
- include discrete sustainable development qualifications as additionality where appropriate
- reduce the use of paper by promoting the use of email, VLE, intranet and other technology such as video conferencing as far as practicable, alongside double sided and black/white printing and copying where the use of print is unavoidable

Key Principles - Sustainable Campuses

This encompasses space utilisation and maintenance of the site, catering, energy management, use and recycling of paper and materials, health & safety and waste management, purchasing strategies and contractual arrangements, curriculum delivery, and transport. In promoting and developing environmental sustainable development, the College will:

- ensure new build maximises opportunity to create building and facilities that promote environmental sustainable development
- ensure new and refurbished buildings are sensitive to visual amenity and impact on the local community
- minimise use of energy and scarce resources through good practice, prudent maintenance and use of energy efficient resources
- continually improve and maintain the environment both within the College and, where appropriate, externally
- reduce the use of paper by promoting the use of email, VLE, intranet and other technology as far as practicable, alongside double sided and black/white printing and copying where the use of print is unavoidable
- promote a sustainable world environment through reducing, reusing and recycling wherever possible, and implementing safe and ethical disposal procedures
- ensure that all staff are aware of the need to apply in practice the aims of the Environmental and Sustainable Development Strategy, particularly in relation to energy savings
- ensure compliance with any legal requirements concerning the environment, and work towards meeting targets of government initiatives for a sustainable environment
- minimise pollution by seeking environmentally acceptable economies in the use of transport
- reduce the use of water by purchasing water efficient equipment (dishwashers/washing machines), replacing worn tap washers to reduce drips, and further investigating rainwater harvesting and the use of greywater systems

Key Principles – Sustainable Community

The College recognises its responsibilities to increase awareness of environmental responsibilities among students, staff, and the community. In promoting and developing environmental sustainable development, the College will collaborate with appropriate external organisations and communities in order to improve the mutual understanding of environmental problems and their solutions.

Monitoring and Audit

Overall responsibility for the implementation of the College's Environment and Sustainable Development Strategy rests with the College Senior Management.

The Vice Principal – Curriculum and Quality will also oversee the implementation relevant actions from the Sustainable Curriculum Strategy and Implementation Plan.

The Facilities Manager will be responsible for ensuring that an environmental and sustainable development audit is carried out annually and that reports are presented to the Business Managers Group. The Facilities Manager will also oversee the implementation of the actions from the Sustainable Property Strategy and Implementation Plan.