



# Environmental and Sustainability Policy

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#### Version Control Statement

Version	Date	Changes	Reason	Author	Next review
1	July 2021	N/A	New Policy	Principal	Jul/Aug 2022
2	July 2022	Minor changes	Annual Review	Principal	Jul/Aug 2023
3	April 2024	Minor Changes	Changes to other polices	Principal	April 2025

#### External Reference Points

• Sustainability 2030: a policy perspective from the University Vocational Awards Council

#### Related Policies and Documents

Affects all other policy documents. This document should however be read together with the following documents:

- Strategic Plan
- Enhancement and Value for Money Policy
- Student Resources Policy
- ICT policy

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## **Environmental and Sustainability Policy**

## Statement

Sustainability has been defined as '*meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs* 

EDA College Itd ("EDA", "the College") is committed to protecting the environment through sustainable practices. 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. We will:

- provide an appropriate management framework for the continual improvement and adaption to new technologies and ideas;
- set and work towards operational targets and key performance indicators that will monitor our improvement;
- annually report and communicate our environmental performance;
- establish and monitor programs to improve and meet the operational targets set; and
- set responsibilities and accountability for environmental issues.

## Scope

This policy applies to all staff, students and the wider community at EDA College.

#### **Objectives**

- To improve awareness and understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development in the College
- To encourage all staff and students to be active participants in environmental initiatives
- To improve the way the College manages its environment
- To work with the local community, and public and private sector organisations to improve the local environment and promote sustainable development

- To improve energy performance and reduce the carbon footprint of the college
- Integrating environmental and sustainable principles into the College's operational procedures and promoting best practices at every level

## **Operational Targets**

The College will set reasonable targets for improvement in the following areas:

- reduction of carbon dioxide (and other greenhouse gas emissions);
- reduction in the quantity of waste produced and effective recycling of appropriate materials;
- reduction of electricity use through staff-student initiatives and College projects;
- reduction in gas use through staff-student initiatives and College projects; and
- reduction in water use through staff-student initiatives and College projects;

#### **Responsibilities**

#### Leadership and Management

- Promote and support sustainable development principles across the organisation
- strategic planning;
- estates and resources;
- curriculum; and
- targeted staff CPD.
- Encourage sustainable procurement to reduce the environmental impact of any procurement and maximise the use of existing College resources.
- Embed sustainability into the strategic planning processes and monitor progress.
- 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, and public and private sector organisations to improve the localenvironment and promote sustainable development.

#### **Buildings and Facilities**

- Monitor and reduce energy, water and waste. This is done using existing College monitoring tools and procedures to effectively manage and improve.
- Work towards operational targets set for the reduction of energy and water consumption.
- Embed the principles of sustainability in the design of the new buildings and upgrade building projects.

#### Curriculum

- Discourage energy and water waste and encourage effective recycling.
- Encourage the Student Representatives to run initiatives that will promote sustainability.
- Actively encourage a culture where students and staff respect their college environment and actively assist in meeting its environmental responsibilities.

## **Monitoring and accountability**

Environment and Sustainability Monitoring is done by members of Executive Office, who would comment on and will monitor progress, making recommendations for changes.

The group is comprised of senior staff members and the progress of these actions will be discussed with the Students in the Student Experience meetings.

#### Accountability Reporting on progress:

Annual reports on environmental and sustainability matters will be presented to the Executive Office;

#### Impacts

The impact of recycling and reducing waste together with a reduction of energy and water use will have cost implications that can be both positive and negative.

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

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