



# Environmental Sustainability Policy

**Policy Owner:** Bridge 2 Education & Employment

**Linked Policies:** Health & Safety Policy

**Effective Date:** June 2026

**Review Date:** June 2027

## **Policy statement**

Bridge 2 Education & Employment (B2EE) recognises that climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing society and is committed to minimising the environmental impact of its operations.

B2EE supports multiple Local Authorities Climate Emergency Declaration and recognises the aspirations set out within many LA's Climate Change Commercial Ask.

The organisation is committed to operating responsibly, reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainable behaviours amongst staff, learners, families and stakeholders.

Environmental sustainability forms part of B2EE's commitment to responsible governance, community engagement and preparation for adulthood.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Reduce carbon emissions.
- Minimise waste.
- Promote sustainable travel.
- Improve energy efficiency.

- Increase environmental awareness.
- Support LA's environmental objectives.
- Embed sustainability into learning and daily practice.

## **Environmental Principles**

B2EE will:

- Comply with environmental legislation.
- Reduce energy consumption.
- Reduce waste generation.
- Reuse and recycle wherever possible.
- Promote sustainable procurement.
- Reduce unnecessary travel.
- Encourage environmentally responsible behaviours.
- Review environmental performance annually.

## **Carbon Reduction Commitment**

B2EE is committed to:

- Monitoring environmental impact.
- Identifying opportunities to reduce emissions.
- Promoting sustainable working practices.
- Supporting national and local carbon reduction ambitions.

The organisation will seek continuous improvement in environmental performance.

## **Energy Management**

B2EE will:

- Switch off equipment when not in use.
- Utilise energy-efficient appliances.
- Monitor utility usage.
- Reduce unnecessary heating and lighting.
- Promote responsible energy use amongst staff and learners.

## **Waste Management**

The organisation will:

- Reduce paper usage.
- Promote digital systems.
- Recycle materials wherever possible.
- Reduce single-use plastics.
- Reuse resources where safe and practical.

## **Sustainable Travel**

B2EE will encourage:

- Car sharing.
- Walking and cycling where appropriate.
- Use of public transport.
- Local learning opportunities to reduce travel.

Journey planning will seek to minimise environmental impact where possible.

### **Procurement**

Environmental considerations will form part of purchasing decisions.

Where possible B2EE will:

- Purchase locally.
- Select sustainable suppliers.
- Reduce packaging waste.
- Choose durable products.
- Consider environmental credentials during procurement.

### **Learner Engagement**

Environmental awareness will be promoted through:

- Personal Development programmes.
- Preparation for Adulthood.
- Employability programmes.
- Community projects.
- Gardening and outdoor learning activities.
- Recycling initiatives.

Learners will be encouraged to understand their role in protecting the environment.

### **Monitoring and Review**

Environmental performance will be reviewed annually.

Progress against the Environmental Action Plan and Carbon Reduction Plan will be reported through the organisation's quality assurance processes.

### **Responsibilities**

**Director of Operations**

Responsible for overall implementation and review.

**Provision Manager**

Responsible for monitoring environmental actions and promoting sustainable practice.

**Staff**

Responsible for implementing environmentally responsible behaviours.

**Learners**

Expected to support recycling, waste reduction and sustainable practices.

**Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or local authority requirements change.

**Policy Approval**

**Policy Owner:** Bridge 2 Education and Employment

**Approved by:** Director of Operations

**Date Approved:** June 2026

**Next Review Date:** June 2027

**Environmental Action Plan & Carbon Reduction Plan**

**Vision**

To operate an environmentally responsible Alternative Provision that actively contributes towards Suffolk County Council's climate ambitions while educating young people about sustainable living and environmental responsibility.

## **Environmental Objectives**

### **Objective 1 – Reduce Energy Consumption**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Switch off equipment when not in use	Ongoing	All Staff
Reduce unnecessary lighting	Ongoing	All Staff
Monitor utility consumption annually	Annual	Provision Manager
Consider energy efficient equipment purchases	Ongoing	Director of Operations

Target:

- Reduce electricity consumption by 10% by 2030.

### **Objective 2 – Reduce Waste**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Increase digital record keeping	Ongoing	All Staff
Minimise printing	Ongoing	All Staff
Implement recycling facilities	Annual	Provision Manager
Reduce single-use plastics	Ongoing	All Staff

Target:

- Reduce paper consumption by 25% by 2030.

### **Objective 3 – Sustainable Travel**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Encourage car sharing	Ongoing	Staff
Use local learning opportunities	Ongoing	Tutors
Minimise unnecessary journeys	Ongoing	Management

Target:

- Reduce business mileage where practical.

### **Objective 4 – Sustainable Procurement**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Purchase local goods where possible	Ongoing	Management

Consider sustainability during purchasing	Ongoing	Management
Reduce unnecessary purchases	Ongoing	All Staff

Target:

- Sustainability considered in 100% of significant purchasing decisions.

### Objective 5 – Learner Environmental Awareness

Action	Timescale	Lead
Embed sustainability within Personal Development	Ongoing	Tutors
Deliver environmental awareness activities	Annual	Tutors
Promote recycling projects	Ongoing	Tutors

Target:

- All learners participate in at least one environmental awareness activity annually.

### Carbon Reduction Measures

B2EE will seek to reduce emissions through:

#### Scope 1 Emissions

Direct emissions from organisational activities.

Actions:

- Reduce fuel consumption where possible.
- Encourage efficient vehicle use.

#### Scope 2 Emissions

Electricity consumption.

Actions:

- Improve energy efficiency.
- Reduce unnecessary usage.

#### Scope 3 Emissions

Indirect emissions.

Actions:

- Reduce travel.
- Use digital systems.
- Promote sustainable procurement.

## **Monitoring**

Progress will be reviewed annually through:

- Utility monitoring.
- Procurement reviews.
- Waste reduction reviews.
- Environmental audits.
- Staff feedback.
- Learner participation records.

## **Annual Review**

The Director of Operations will review progress annually and update actions as required.

Progress against this plan will be incorporated into quality assurance and commissioning reviews.

## **Suffolk Climate Change Commercial Ask Commitment**

B2EE is committed to supporting Suffolk County Council's ambition to reduce environmental impact, increase sustainability and promote responsible environmental practices throughout its operations.

The organisation will seek continual improvement and work collaboratively with commissioners, communities, learners and partners to contribute positively towards local and national climate objectives.

## **APPENDIX 1 – How B2EE supports Suffolks Climate Change Commercial Ask**



# How B2EE Supports Suffolk's Climate Change Commercial Ask



B2EE is committed to reducing our environmental impact, promoting sustainability and supporting Suffolk County Council's climate ambitions.



## OUR VISION

To inspire our learners, staff and community to protect the environment and build a sustainable future for all.



## OUR COMMITMENT

We will reduce emissions, use resources responsibly and embed sustainability into everything we do.

### OUR ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



#### LOCAL & COMMUNITY FOCUSED

- We use local learning environments, community venues and local partners to reduce travel.
- Building strong community connections and supporting the local economy.



#### DIGITAL BY DESIGN

- We use digital systems for learner records, communication and quality assurance.
- Reducing paper, printing and physical storage.



#### REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

- We minimise waste and promote recycling across our sites and activities.
- We encourage learners to take part in recycling and upcycling projects.



#### SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

- We encourage walking, cycling, car sharing and public transport.
- We plan journeys carefully to reduce emissions.



#### RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT

- We choose suppliers who share our environmental values.
- We buy local where possible and reduce packaging and single-use items.



#### LEARNER ENGAGEMENT

- We embed environmental awareness in Personal Development and Preparation for Adulthood.
- Learners take part in gardening, conservation and community projects.



#### ENERGY CONSCIOUS

- We use energy efficient equipment.
- We switch off equipment when not in use.
- We monitor and reduce our energy use.



#### OUR PEOPLE, OUR PURPOSE

- We empower staff and learners to make sustainable choices.
- Every small action creates a positive impact.



Together, we are building a more sustainable Bridge 2 Education & Employment.

*We Learn. We Grow. We Make a Difference.*



#### COLLABORATE

We work with local partners to protect our environment.



#### EDUCATE

We educate and inspire our learners for a green future.



#### REDUCE IMPACT

We take practical steps to reduce our environmental impact.



#### BE ACCOUNTABLE

We monitor our progress and continually improve.



#### BUILD A LEGACY

We are committed to leaving a positive legacy for future generations.



