ENVIRONMANTAL POLICY

yoursport.org

Your Sport recognises our responsibility to protect the environment, reduce our carbon footprint, and promote sustainable practices across all our delivery programmes.

We are committed to embedding environmental awareness into our day-to-day operations and using our position as sports educators to model responsible environmental stewardship for the young people we support.

1. Scope & Objectives

This policy applies to all staff, coaches, volunteers, and operational sites managed by Your Sport. Our primary environmental objectives are:

- Minimise waste through efficient resource management, recycling, and digital-first administration.
- Reduce energy consumption across sports facilities, offices, and venue hire spaces.
- Encourage sustainable transport practices for staff, participants, and equipment movement.
- Educate and engage young people on environmental responsibility through sports and outdoor learning.

2. Practical Commitments & Actions

A. Resource & Waste Management

- Digital-First Operations: We operate a paperless administration system where possible, utilising digital platforms for attendance tracking, safeguarding logs, and school reporting.
- Reduction of Single-Use Plastics: We actively discourage single-use plastic water bottles. All participants and coaches are provided with or encouraged to use reusable sports water bottles.
- Equipment & Asset Management: We invest in durable, high-quality sports kit and equipment. Equipment is maintained, repaired, and reused wherever possible. Worn-out sports gear and kit are recycled or donated to community recycling initiatives rather than sent to landfill.
- Recycling Facilities: We ensure clear recycling facilities (paper, cardboard, plastics) are used at all operating venues and administrative bases.

B. Energy & Facility Efficiency

- Venue Selection: When hiring or utilising external sports facilities, school halls, or community centres, we prioritise venues that demonstrate efficient heating, LED lighting, and good energy management.
- Equipment & Tech Maintenance: All electronic devices, laptops, and session equipment are powered down fully when not in use.

C. Travel & Transport

- Route Optimisation: Staff travel between schools and sports sites is planned efficiently to minimise mileage and emissions.
- Shared Transport: Where group transport or venue transfers are arranged for participants, we utilise shared transport/minibuses rather than individual vehicles to reduce overall carbon footprint.

- Public & Active Transport**:** We encourage coaches and staff to use active travel (cycling/walking) or public transport for local delivery where feasible.

D. Educational & Community Impact

- Modeling Environmental Values: Our coaches actively model sustainable habits (e.g., litter reduction after sports sessions, pitch care, resource respect) linking back to our S.P.O.R.T. value of *Respect*.
- Outdoor & Environmental Appreciation: Where appropriate, we integrate outdoor learning and environmental awareness into our sports curriculum, helping young people build a positive connection with their local green spaces.

3. Governance & Continuous Improvement

- Compliance: We strictly comply with all relevant UK environmental legislation and local council environmental guidelines.
- Review: This policy is reviewed annually by Senior Management to evaluate our progress, set updated targets, and ensure alignment with commissioning standards.
- Staff Engagement: Environmental responsibilities are communicated to all staff during induction, ensuring our delivery team actively upholds these standards during every session.