



THE BEMROSE SCHOOL

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

MANAGER: M DENISON

ADOPTED: JUNE 2025

REVIEW: JUNE 2026

Introduction

The Bemrose School's Governing Body and staff recognise the importance of managing the school's interaction with the environment and the responsibilities placed upon them to limit, in so far as is reasonably practicable, the impact the organisation has on the environment at all levels.

Methodology

The Governing Body will, through its ethos, policies, procedures, and curriculum, promote a culture which supports sustainable development in an environment where pupils, staff, stakeholders, and the wider community support each other through the learning process. A process, described as possessing the three key principles:

- Participation,
- Systems thinking
- Action learning.

To facilitate this The Bemrose School Parliament group has created an Environment and Sustainability Sub-Committee, which will include one member of the Leadership Team, the Site Co-ordinator and a group of pupils. The sub-committee will encourage pupils and staff to limit unnecessary use of resources, materials, energy, and water whilst striving to prepare our pupils for a lifetime of sustainable living through our teaching and day-to-day practice and by so doing, demonstrate our commitment to care for the environment, both locally, nationally, and globally.

We will strive to equip our pupils with the principle of sustainable development, integrating the goals of healthy living, environmental awareness, community engagement and citizenship with high standards of achievement and behaviour.

“Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” – as defined by The World Commission on Environment and Development's 1987 Brundtland report.

To achieve this the sub-committee will seek to foster a robust approach when facing the challenge of sustainable development by challenging our:

- **Leadership and management** – *to develop leadership and management practices which promote the core themes of sustainable development within the school's curriculum, its facilities, and the community.*
- **Stakeholders** – *to make their voices heard enabling us to listen to the views of learners, parents/carers, community, and other stakeholders involving them in decision making.*
- **Curriculum planning process**– *to motivate pupils, to understand and develop sustainable living strategies, enhancing their enjoyment of the environments whilst learning and ultimately raise achievement and standards.*
- **The understanding of personal development and well-being** – *promoting sustainable development in ways that help pupils to understand the factors affecting their well-being and build their capacity to improve their lives in the situations and environments they experience.*
- **Strategies to improve the quality of provision** – *using the whole curriculum and our extra- curricular activities as a means of providing an education for sustainable development, using approaches which enable pupils to develop knowledge, skills and values through experience.*

The sub-committee may choose to reference the document- Sustainability and climate change- a strategy for the education and children's services systems (December 2023).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy/sustainability-and-climate-change-a-strategy-for-the-education-and-childrens-services-systems>

Electricity.

Existing situation

The original Secondary Phase buildings and the Primary Phase is supplied by one incoming mains supply and a three-phase meter which supplies half hourly reading via radio telemetry to the Meter Operator (Siemens). The Meter Operator (MOP)

subsequently forward those readings to the supplier, currently June 2025 Total Gas & Power (TGP) for the purposed of billing.

The supplier then produces a monthly account using the reading provided.

The “Oak Tree” block has its own three phase incoming mains supply which are meter and billed independently by TGP. (June 2025)

The Primary Phase building has a 6kw Solar PV array on the roof of the building generating a small Feed in Tariff (FIT) income.

Strategy

- The refurbishment work of the buildings has led to an overall reduction in energy consumption by design estimated at 15% for the refurbished areas.
- LED and low energy light fittings to be installed in all areas that are outside of the refurbishment areas.
- The school is now using Entrust instead of Derby City Council for its premises management systems. Entrust are keen to introduce and install solar panels on both the Primary and Secondary roofs and Battery Power storage and thereby reduce the reliance on gas as the primary source of heat and electricity.
- Install timing devices on electrical circuits to ensure they are powered down when the school is not in operation.
- Upgrade outside lighting in the school to LED/low energy technology.
- Investigate reasons for night rate units used to ensure all unnecessary items are either switched off, placed on a timer, or removed from service.
- Encourage users to switch off lights and electrical items as they leave any room or area.
- Encourage staff during winter months to keep windows closed as much as possible.
- Encourage the cleaners to switch off any devices they find that have been left on, after they have cleaned a room.
- PAT test all items and remove any faulty items.
- Remove electrical heaters from any areas.
- When purchasing new electrical items as often as possible only procure A/A+ rated items.
- Follow closely any advice from the annual Display energy certificates (DEC survey).
- Entrust to ensure that Voltage optimisation is in place.
- Encourage pupils to remind staff to switch off unnecessary electrical items.
- Photocopiers and corridor screens are on timers for evenings and weekends- so they are not running overnight.

1. Plan to further reduce energy consumption across the site by a further 5% by September 2026.

Gas consumption and Heating systems

Existing situation

The Secondary Phase building uses gas as the primary source of heating both space heating and domestic hot water. There is no gas supply to the Primary Phase site. There are a total of fifteen gas boilers across the site providing both space heating and domestic hot water. The Elmtree Unit has a small “domestic” gas boiler to meet the buildings heating requirements.

Strategy

- Reduce gas consumption by 10% as compared to the present Secondary Phase installation by September 2026.
- The refurbishment has provided better insulation, a more modern heating system and double-glazed windows. Any electric heaters to be removed from the buildings. The system will be maintained to ensure it is working as efficiently as possible. Entrust have highlighted several areas where savings can be made. The Boiler Management System (BMS) is regularly serviced, extra insulation on boiler pipes, the Boiler serviced regularly, in winter turn off the FAVU's. The use of the timer, so that the heating is on less during the day.
- Reduce Trv's to level 4 in all rooms.
- Encourage staff to dress accordingly on colder days.
- Turn Thermostats down to 19 degrees in all rooms.
- Ensure any draughts are rectified swiftly.
- Replace old boiler system and controls that heat the Sports Hall and girls changing room facilities.

Water consumption

10% reduction in consumption across the school.

Strategy

- All taps where possible are fitted with non-concussive taps.
- Water flow is turned down.
- Reduce cistern capacity on each toilet.
- Regularly maintain the system, so there are fewer leaks and no broken water systems.

- Any leaks are fixed quickly.
- Install water reducing devices on all toilets supplied by Severn Trent. Primary has been completed (June 2025), awaiting an install date from Severn Trent for the secondary school.

Solar PV generation

At least 100% increase in solar PV generation as compared to present installed capacity by September 2026.

Strategy

- Install solar panels across the school site.

Paper usage

Purchasing and waste – waste conscious. Minimising, through sustainable procurement from local sources where practicable and good management practices, the waste of resources and materials. 10% reduction in paper used for photocopying by September 2026.

Strategy

- Default printer setting as doubled sided printing.
- Staff to use electronic Reciprocal reader activities more widely and thereby reduce paper usage.
- Reduce handouts in lessons – promote and expand the use electronic working.
- Discourage the printing of hard copies.
- Change waste disposal contractor to a “Best Value” contractor with more emphasis on recycling.

Biodiversity

To create and manage areas of the school’s grounds which are designed to support and encourage biodiversity, such as ponds and wet land areas, wildflower “meadows” and hedgerows wherever possible across the site, linking the creation, management and monitoring these areas to the school’s curriculum wherever possible.

Strategy

- Plant more trees and hedges around the site.
- Plant a wildflower meadow at the primary phase.
- Allow grass to grow longer in some areas to encourage wildlife-edges of the school field, behind the Primary phase outside playground.
- Have “No Mow May” in specific areas around the school site every year.

Catering contract

Encourage Mellors the catering contractor to developing a network of local suppliers to deliver cost effective, sustainable offerings to all our pupils and staff.

Strategy

- Managing the catering activity in a way which allows the predominant use of local supplies of healthy, sustainable food and drink, who are committed to the environment, social responsibility, and animal welfare. Minimising the impact of food miles.
- Develop a “grow our own” strategy using designated “allotment space” to produce fruit and vegetables for use in the school kitchen by September 2024.
- Provide juice machines, instead of selling plastic bottles.
- Provide every pupil with their own water bottle and thereby reduce the need to purchase bottles from the dining hall.

Transport and travel

Advocate sustainable travel, where vehicles are used only when necessary and where there are good facilities for healthier, less polluting, or less dangerous modes of transport.

Strategy

- Promote and incentivise a car share scheme amongst staff.
- Cycle to school opportunities for staff and pupils.
- Promote the use of electric vehicles providing charging points on the school site.
- Encourage pupils to walk to events such as rewards day activities that are in Derby City Centre, rather than hiring buses.
- Encourage pupils to walk to school.

Implementation

The Bemrose School Parliament will, in conjunction with Leadership Team and the Governing Body, encourage and promote “sustainability pledges” from all departments and groups across the school.

Environmental and Sustainability Variables Overtime

Units (April to March)

	2022-23	2023-24*	2024-25
Gas	929,637	682,353	843,780
Electricity	614,769	649,129	606,640
Water	4,469	8,444	11,606
Waste/Recycling	n/a	n/a	n/a

Cost (April to March)

	2022-23	2023-24*	2024-25
Gas	£42,352	£83,146.25	£57,055.51
Electricity	£162,720	£270,548.47	£200,546.06
Water	£20,301	£32,893.46	£24,089.76
Waste/Recycling	£22,080	£25,767.14	£26,957.76

data updated in June 2025



The Bemrose
School Climate Actic

This policy was agreed by the governors resources committee