

# St Paul's, the British School, São Paulo

## Sustainability and environmental awareness policy and strategy

St Paul's School is a leading British School Overseas and the only BSO recognised in South America. Occupying a complex urban site in Sao Paulo, the school has to consider its own impact on near neighbours and the wider environment, as well as working within the regulatory framework of Brazilian law and local bylaws and structures. With approaching 1500 members of the St Paul's community on the single site, our use of resources is inevitable and large, but our aim is always to consider how best to be efficient in our operations and to be sensitive to the impact we have on the environment, while seeking to reduce it.

We acknowledge our responsibility to protect the environment and also to promote sustainability and lead by example to provide a legacy of environmental commitment and awareness for pupils, staff and the wider community.

Our aim is to build on the school's outstanding services, physical assets and operational management with an ever developing culture/increasing emphasis on environmental sustainability in the design and provision of new and existing buildings, and the integration of sustainable issues into school activities and continually improving environmental performance through strategic management. We are also committed to reducing our carbon footprint, conserving natural resources and preventing environmental pollution.

### Aims

1. Develop a culture of stewardship of resources and sustainability within the school
2. Embed sustainability and environmental impact in to the curriculum both within and beyond the classroom.
3. Work towards social and community sustainability, embracing opportunities to work with community partners on sustainable projects.
4. To run as an efficient, effective and sustainable organisation.

It is our policy to:

- Recognise the potential impact of climate change and the strategic and operational need to control, manage and reduce the environmental impact of the school through better management of resources.
- Consider the balance between economic, environmental and social aspects of our business decisions against sustainable development principles.
- Increase awareness of environmental responsibilities amongst staff, suppliers, contractors and pupils and ensure that staff and pupils have the appropriate knowledge and awareness to improve the school's environmental performance.
- Maintain, as a minimum, compliance with relevant environmental legislation and regulations.
- Minimise waste and pollution and operate effective waste management procedures.
- Minimise water consumption across the school; implement waste water re-use where possible, for example grey water systems.
- To reduce energy consumption both in day to day operations and in developing new resources and buildings for the school.
- Avoid use, wherever possible, of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes; maintaining compliance with regulation.
- Embed the inclusion of sustainability principles in the curriculum where relevant and suitable.
- Encourage environmentally-responsible procurement and promote a purchasing policy which will give preference as far as practicable to those products and services which will cause least harm to the environment.
- Encourage the use of recycled materials and recycling initiatives.
- Encourage modes of transport by staff and pupils which minimise environmental impact.