

# St John Payne Catholic School



## Sustainability Statement

**Introduction:** At St John Payne we recognise the critical importance of sustainability in shaping a better future for our planet and its inhabitants. As an educational institution, we have a responsibility to foster environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability among our students, staff, and wider community. Our sustainability statement plan outlines our commitment to integrating sustainable practices into all aspects of school life.

**Vision Statement:** Our vision is to create a school environment where sustainability is embedded in everything we do. We aim to inspire and empower our students to become responsible global citizens who are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to address the complex challenges of the 21st century.

### Objectives:

#### 1. Environmental Responsibility:

- Reduce our carbon footprint by implementing energy-efficient measures, promoting waste reduction and recycling, and conserving water resources.
- Incorporate environmental education into the curriculum to raise awareness and inspire action on issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and resource depletion.

#### 2. Social Equity:

- Foster a culture of inclusivity and respect, ensuring that all members of our school community have equal access to opportunities regardless of background or identity.

#### 3. Economic Viability:

- Implement cost-effective sustainable practices that not only benefit the environment but also contribute to long-term financial savings for the school.
- Support local businesses and suppliers that prioritise sustainability and ethical practices in their operations.

### Key Initiatives:

1. **Curriculum Integration:** Integrate sustainability themes across various subjects and grade levels, providing students with interdisciplinary learning opportunities that highlight the interconnectedness of social, environmental, and economic issues.

#### 2. Utilities & Operations:

- Implement energy-saving measures such as LED lighting, solar panels, and energy-efficient appliances.

- Establish a comprehensive waste management program that includes recycling and reduction of single-use plastics.
- Promote water conservation through the installation of water-saving fixtures and educational campaigns.

**3. Student Engagement:**

- Empower student-led sustainability initiatives through clubs, projects, and events that promote environmental awareness and activism.
- Provide opportunities for student participation in green initiatives such as school gardens, tree planting, and environmental clean-up efforts.

**4. Professional Development:** Offer training and resources for staff to incorporate sustainability principles into their teaching practices and daily operations, fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement.

**5. Community Partnerships:**

- Collaborate with local organisations, businesses, and government agencies to support sustainability initiatives in the broader community.
- Host events, workshops, and guest speakers to engage parents, students and community members in sustainability education and action.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** SJP Earth Society will regularly assess and track progress towards our sustainability goals, using metrics such as energy consumption, waste diversion rates, student engagement levels, and community impact. Solicit feedback from stakeholders to identify areas for improvement and refine our strategies accordingly.

**Conclusion:** At St John Payne sustainability is not just a goal; it is a value that guides our actions and will shape our collective future. By embracing sustainability in all its dimensions, we strive to create a school community that is resilient, equitable, and environmentally responsible, preparing our students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.