

Sustainability Policy Statement



Inver College
Roll No. 72180K.

Our values are very important if students are to reach their academic potential but many important also when it comes to looking after our school, our community, and our planet.

The young people are expected to exercise appropriate responsibility within Inver College and Sustainability is an area that they feel very strongly about.

Staff, parents, and students co-operate for the common good.

Inver College mirrors the community it serves, in that young people of different backgrounds, religions and abilities are educated together in a co-educational, democratically administered environment.

Our Mission Statement, our School Values and how we operate daily in Inver College can be linked to many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) namely:

SDG 2- Zero Hunger, by offering free meals to our student cohort.

SDG 3 – Good Health & Wellbeing. Physical Education is part of all student's timetable, and we offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities during lunchtime and after school.

SDG 4 - Quality Education. We offer a very broad range of subjects to our students, delivered by a professional, hardworking, and caring teaching staff.

SDG 6- Clean water and sanitation. Clean drinking water is available to all students and staff through the introduction of new water stations, along with numerous, well maintained, and hygienic sanitation facilities for all.

SDG 13- Climate Action. Through our subjects and modules that we offer in Inver College, we make our students aware of the ever-evolving area of "climate change" and how it is our responsibility and duty to take small actions daily, that will leave our planet in a better state for future generations.

SDG 14-Reducing Marine & Ocean Pollution. We in Inver College have already started to protect Marine and Ocean conservation by recycling plastic bottles from our school shop by use of specialised bins, while also introducing our own standard Inver College water bottles to first years with the aim of expanding to all year groups.

Many, if not all the SDGs are covered in the subject curriculums for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate.

and staff are encouraged to minimise unnecessary paper usage and are regularly notified on excess use by the Senior Management Team. Staff have access to a shredding machine and this waste is recycled.

- Our school environment clearly displays information on sustainability and sustainable practices in prominent and accessible places.
- Our school actively promotes and fosters an attitude of care and responsibility towards the natural environment.
- Our school promotes and facilitates outdoor learning with the addition of a polytunnel in recent years.
- Our school encourages students to walk or cycle to school where possible and when it is safe to do so.
- We encourage students and staff to cycle to school when possible.
- A bike shelter has been erected on the school campus to encourage students and staff to cycle to school.

Social Sustainability

- CSPE as a compulsory Junior Cycle subject so students can understand their civic rights & responsibilities that can better serve their communities and society in general. CSPE classes work together each week as a team and organise a litter picking programme whereby they form different groups and tackle different areas of the school and community to keep it clean.
- Our school engages with Global Citizenship Education programmes such as World Wise Global Schools and encourages guest speakers to speak to staff on the work they do and how teachers can implement ideas into their teaching.
- The needs of all students in recognition of differentiated physical or learning abilities, are taken into consideration, and accommodated. This is evident through our infrastructural changes in recent years to accommodate all users. We will continue to improve this area so no barriers to movement exist around the school building or grounds.
- Our school has a specialised room called the Home Room which caters for students with specific AEN. These students are a huge part of our community, and they are involved in mainstream school where possible. This classroom highlights to the students our social responsibility to inclusion for all.
- Some school staff are provided with training in conflict resolution through Restorative Practice (RP), to support and affect positive student behaviour.

Goals

- Our aim over the next 12 months is to improve our waste management in the school, through better and more extensive recycling. We will look to educate our students on how they can assist us in correctly managing our waste. We also hope to introduce more Water stations on our campus, while also introducing more school reusable water bottles.

Implementation and review

This document was reviewed by the Board of Management on 3rd December 2024.

To ensure our school strives to improve its work within sustainability and climate action, the Statement will be reviewed annually.

Signed: Aidan Campbell Chairperson BOM

Date: 3-12-24