

PTA Environmental Policy

Introduction

This policy outlines the guiding principles for environmentally responsible decision-making within the Friends of William Gilpin School. It applies to all members of the association and has been formally approved by the committee.

Our commitment

The Friends of William Gilpin School recognises the environmental challenges facing communities today. We are committed to embracing sustainability through the principles of **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle** across all events, activities and purchasing practices. Guided by input from members, the committee pledges to:

- Consider reducing single-use plastics at events
- Choose eco-friendly alternatives where possible when sourcing supplies
- Promote recycling of event materials
- Cut down on food waste during catered activities
- Use biodegradable disposables where reusable items such as mugs, plates and cutlery are not available or not realistic
- Advocate for refillable drink containers at refreshment stands
- Buy in bulk to reduce packaging & environmental cost of post/collection
- Prioritise digital communication to limit paper use
- Support local suppliers when making purchases
- Where possible, provide locally-sourced, food with vegetarian and vegan options
- Champion projects that preserve and enhance green spaces (e.g. forest schools, gardens, clubs)

Roles & responsibilities

- The committee is accountable for fulfilling the policy's pledges and will offer training or guidance to volunteers as needed
- Purchases will follow the expense policy and support the organisation's sustainability goals. Budgets must be pre-approved by the committee, considering both frequency of use and durability
- The policy will be communicated clearly to members, the school and the broader community

Actions & implementation

To bring this policy to life, the association will endeavour to:

- Promote widespread participation, including committee members, volunteers, pupils, staff and attendees
- Partner with local businesses and groups to enhance impact
- Launch sustainable fundraising initiatives (e.g. clothing and goods recycling)
- Help the school manage pre-loved uniform sales
- Uphold inclusivity and be free from discrimination

Expectations for members & volunteers

Members and volunteers are expected to:

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- Carry out duties in alignment with the association's environmental values
- Positively represent the association
- Follow all established policies

Policy review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Friends of William Gilpin School committee to ensure it continues to support both the organisation and its volunteers effectively.

Signatures

Approved and adopted by the committee of the Friends of William Gilpin School:

Name:	Rebecca White	Paula Rowney	Robert Morgan
Position:	Chair Person	Secretary	Treasurer
Signature:	R White	P Rowney	R Morgan
Date:	22/06/2026	07/07/2026	06/07/2026

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