

| Name of Policy   | Climate Crisis Policy   |  |  |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| Policy Number    |   |  |  |
| Trust Schools    |   |  |  |
| Named Person(s)  | Paul Carvin   |  |  |
| Review Committee | Board   |  |  |
| Last review date | Summer 2022   |  |  |
| Next review date | Summer 2023   |  |  |
| Revisions        | May 2022: Point 7 added to section 2 of the policy (this is highlighted in yellow for ease of identification) |  |  |



## 1. Introduction

The Three Rivers Learning Trust recognises that action is required to address the climate crisis because

- 1. We recognise the importance of science and evidence. Reports published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the UK Committee on Climate Change describe the enormous harm that a 2°C average rise in global temperatures is likely to cause. Sir David Attenborough has said: "Right now, we are facing a disaster of global scale caused by human activity. Our greatest threat in thousands of years. Climate change. If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon.";
- the young people are our future and schools need to empower them so that as citizens of the world they have the knowledge and skills to overcome the consequences of the climate crisis;
- 3. the **impacts of the climate crisis** are already impacting on the everyday lives of people around the world, including in the UK;
- we all have a duty to act, The UK government and other bodies have already passed 'Climate Change motions'. It is incumbent upon us to influence decision makers to bring about change. In particular, we should influence others within the educational world; and
- strong policies and actions to cut emissions and reduce the impact of the climate crisis also have associated health, social, wellbeing, environmental and economic benefits which will benefit individuals and bring about a fairer and better society.

## 2. How the Learning Trust will take action

- 1. We will **speak out** about our efforts to combat the climate crisis in a positive and informed way
- 2. We will take every opportunity to ensure we all **learn more** about the crisis and the views of our stakeholders
- 3. Ensure that **curriculum opportunities** and learning and teaching strategies across the Learning Trust address the climate crisis fully and in an appropriate way
- 4. **Involve young people** in all aspects of this work and give them the knowledge and agency to take the lead whenever possible
- 5. We will **Network with others**, taking a **lead where necessary**, to highlight the dangers we face, plan for the future and press for people and the government to act.
- 6. We will consider how we can reduce our impact on climate

- through our strategic planning and decision making and do all that we can in our day to day work to reduce our impact on the environment and the climate as well as mitigating for the effects of climate change. We will be **bold** in our response and will take action reviewing what we do already, planning robustly and setting ourselves challenging targets
- 7. All our schools have signed up to "**Lets Go Zero**" a national campaign to get schools carbon zero by 2030. That's a huge challenge but transforming our schools will help safeguard the planet for future generations. To become carbon zero, our schools through all their activities and purchasing won't contribute to climate change through carbon emissions. Key areas for us to focus on include: energy use, travel, waste, water, purchases, food and school grounds.

## 3. Climate crisis scheme of delegation

| Group             | Responsibilities  | Culture   | Monitoring and reporting   |
|-------------------|---|---|--|
| Board of Trustees | <ul> <li>Trust coordination of response to climate crisis</li> <li>Ensuring implementation of this policy; effective internal and external communication; and resourcing decisions take account of climate change</li> <li>Set expectations of student led activities to drive change.</li> </ul> | Passionate and committed to achieving long term, sustainable and continuous change to contribute to addressing the climate crisis | <ul> <li>Identified trustee</li> <li>Termly report to board</li> <li>Annual presentation<br/>and discussion with<br/>students</li> </ul> |
| Academy Councils  | <ul> <li>Coordination of response at<br/>school level</li> <li>Making regular assurances to<br/>trust board about response to<br/>climate crisis</li> </ul>   | Passionate and committed to achieving long term, sustainable and continuous change to contribute to addressing the climate crisis | <ul> <li>Identified member of council</li> <li>Termly reports to AC</li> </ul>   |
| School leadership | Leadership of response at school level  | Open minded and supportive in engagement with young people to enable change and key objectives to be achieved                     | <ul> <li>Identified member of staff</li> <li>Regular reports to 3RLT SLT</li> <li>Termly liaison with school council</li> </ul>          |
| Student councils  | <ul> <li>Represent views of students<br/>and young people</li> <li>Put forward ideas for<br/>activities and events</li> <li>Effective communication</li> </ul>  | Passionate and committed  | <ul> <li>Identified student<br/>council member</li> <li>Regular reports at<br/>school council</li> </ul>                                 |