

# Policy for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship is a term that has many and varying definitions. At Ysgol Rhys Prichar, we have adopted our own simple mission statement that we believe can be equally understood by children and adults alike:

### "The Future starts Now"

In defining our mission statement, we have paid due attention to the definition expressed in ACCAC's 'Guidance on Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship' (2002):

**Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)** is about enabling pupils to develop the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions about the way we do things individually and collectively, both locally and globally, that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future.

**Education for Global Citizenship (GC)** enables people to understand the global forces that shape their lives and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values that will equip them to participate in decision-making, both locally and globally, which promotes a more equitable and sustainable world.

#### Implementation of our ESDGC policy

We recognise that in order to educate our children in sustainable and global issues, we need to plan for and embed ESDGC into the curriculum and all aspects of school life, as well as demonstrating that we practice what we preach. We aim, therefore, to instil in our children **the Five Rs:** 

- Respect and Equality:
- ♦ Reduce:
- ♦ Re-use;
- Recycle;
- Restore.

These tenets will underline our work in the following ways:

- 1. **The curriculum:** We will address the explicit references to sustainable development and global citizenship where they exist in the National Curriculum Programmes of Study, Common Requirements and Key Skills. Maximum opportunity will be taken to exploit specific local, national or global events e.g. tsunami, anniversaries of world events.
- 2. **Environment and Community Links:** Our environment will be cared for through responsible stewardship. We will actively seek partnership working through such

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organisations as Eco-schools, Forest Education Initiative, LEA and Local Council Departments

- 3. **Involving all stakeholders:** Children and adults (teachers, governors, parents, LEA, members of community, local councillors, church representatives), alike will participate in evaluative and management processes e.g. Governors, School Council and Eco-Council.
- 4. **Global and community links will be nurtured and valued:** We aim to make our school the centre of its community, drawing upon the expertise within it whenever possible. We will seek to make links with other schools in this and other countries. We will explore the concept of interdependence by pupils sharing their views about issues that the schools have in common.
- 5. Resources: We recognise the importance of having high quality resources that motivate children and support learning. Resources are not always physical e.g. British Council offers a gateway to finances, links and training information. Some resources will be held at school level and a school policy on purchasing and using resources will be developed which takes into account environmental impact and fair trade. All resources will be evaluated to ensure they present a balanced, non-stereotypical view of the world. Other resources will be shared through effective networking. Further resources can be obtained from outside agencies e.g. GEMSS, School Library service and LEA.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

Key Concept		Examples that might be found in school
Interdependence	This concept involves an understanding about the connections and links between all aspects of people's lives and places at a local and global level, and that decisions taken in one place will affect what happens elsewhere. Pupils should develop an understanding that living things depend on each other and should acquire a sense that all living things have value. This should lead to an understanding that what people do elsewhere affects them, the places they live, other people, and plants and animals. They should become increasingly aware of the global context within which trade, industry and consumption operate.	Local and global issues e.g. tsunami, hurricanes, flooding Dynamo Fairtrade
Citizenship and stewardship	This concept recognises that people have rights and responsibilities to participate in decision making and that everyone should have a say in what happens in the future. This involves a willingness to act as responsible citizens while developing the ability to engage with and manage change at individual and social levels.	Racial Equality Action Plan Anti-bullying Anti-racism Stereotypes Charities Healthy Schools Family

Pupils are expected to know and understand the connection between personal values, beliefs and behaviour and how the school and community can be managed more sustainably and equitably

Numeracy/Literacy Eco-schools Recycling

# Needs and rights of future generations

This concept is about learning how we can lead lives that consider the rights and needs of others and recognising that what we do now has implications for what life will be like in the future e.g. discussion could cover rights of the child, common human rights and sustainable change.

School/community rules School council Rights of the Child Inclusion

#### **Diversity**

This concept is about understanding the importance and value of diversity in people's lives – culturally, socially, economically and biologically and realising that all our lives are impoverished without such diversity. Through learning, pupils should appreciate cultural and biological diversity in the school and locality and eventually be able to reflect on and engage in, debates and decisions on political, technological and economic changes which impinge on diversity and sustainability

Multicultural
resource boxes
Environmental
packs
Comenius
Equality, Diversity
and Achievement
Award

# Quality of life, equity and justice

This concept recognises that for any development to be sustainable, it must benefit people in an equitable way. It is about improving everybody's lives. At a basic level this involves understanding the essential differences between needs and wants and developing a sense of fairness and respect. It involves understanding the difference between quality of life and standards of living and seeks a good quality of life for all people, at local, national and global levels and an appreciation of why equity and justice are necessary to an equitable and sustainable society.

Fair Trade
Fair Deal for Africa
Global Equity
Literacy books and
poems
Making Poverty
History

#### Sustainable change

This concept promotes an understanding that there are limits to the way in which the world, particularly richer countries can develop. The consequences of unmanaged and unsustainable growth might include increased inequality between different groups, poverty, hardship and the degradation of the environment, to the disadvantage of everyone. This involves pupils in understanding how their home and school may be managed more sustainably and beginning to question decisions, practices and processes that affect sustainable development issues.

Recycling
Eco-schools
Walking buses
Healthy Eating
Using school
grounds
Millennium Centre

Attitudes and values
Stereotypes
Bias
(newspaper/media)
Philosophy for

		children
Uncertainty and precaution	This concept Involves a realisation that because people are learning all the time and that their actions may have unforeseen consequences,	Thinking Skills
	they should adopt a cautious and questioning	Challenging
	approach to the welfare of the world and its peoples. This implies understanding that	stereotypes Comenius
	different people want to do things in different ways and are able to listen to arguments and weigh evidence carefully. Pupils should thus be able to think critically, systematically and creatively about ESDGC.	International links
		School Council
Values and perceptions	This concept helps develop a critical evaluation of images of, and information about local, national and global economies, environments and peoples. Builds an appreciation of the effect these have on people's attitudes and values and how negative or selective information can contribute to stereotyping and prejudice.	Peer mediation Circle time Class/school rules
Conflict Resolution	This concept promotes an understanding of how conflicts can be a barrier to development and a risk to us all and why there is a need for their resolution and the promotion of harmony. Develops learning skills to discuss, negotiate and respond to personal and general conflict.	

#### Assessment, recording and reporting

The work that the pupils do in different subjects that involves ESDGC will be assessed as other aspects of those subjects are assessed. Some of this work may be formally assessed but much will be informally assessed. Work carried out outside the boundaries of National Curriculum or other accreditations will be assessed informally. Significant achievements will be reported to the parents.

#### **Co-ordination**

The ESDGC co-ordinator's role will develop, raise awareness, support and work with colleagues to monitor and evaluate the area. Further in school training will be identified within the School Improvement Plan and the school performance management cycle.

#### CPD

CPD will be provided to support the needs of the school and individuals.

#### Extra-curricular and out of school opportunities

Our extra-curricular provision allows our pupils to broaden their understanding of sustainable development and Global Citizenship. We participate in the Eco-Schools initiative and have a strong Action Team that provides a forum for pupils to express their views, plan action

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campaigns and feedback to governors. We participate in 'Tree week', Healthy Schools' initiative, 'Black History Month', 'One World Week' and 'National School Grounds Day', Fairtrade fortnight and run an eco club. Our School 'Tuck Shop', stocks a range of fresh fruit. The extra curricular provision supports the Gifted and Talented agenda and allows children with specific interests to pursue them further.

#### Leadership and Management roles and responsibilities

A link governor has a responsibility for ESDGC and is the first point of reference for this area on the Governing Body. The Co-ordinator for ESDGC monitors the provision within the curriculum.

#### **Racial Equality**

ESDGC merges with areas covered by Racial Equality. It is essential to bear in mind that there are differences. It is easy, but inappropriate, to teach ESDGC without bringing in a racial equality dimension or perspective. To embed ESDGC and Racial Equality as an ethos within the school community, they will be linked and those links made explicit.

#### **Equal Opportunities**

All work on ESDGC supports the school's equal opportunities policies and practices.

#### **Health and Safety**

We adhere to the requirements and recommendations of the LEA's Health and Safety Policy. Parental permission is sought for all work off site and also in those activities in the school grounds that involve pupils taking action, eg, litter sorting and recycling etc. Advice is taken from outside agencies.

Signed			
Date -			

## ESDGC: How well are we doing?

	Evidence
Is ESDGC included in the self evaluation framework?	
Are the statutory requirements for ESDGC in	
geography being met?	
Does the PSE provision give enough attention to ESDGC?	
Are opportunities to develop and extend pupils'	
awareness and understanding of ESDGC identified in other subjects?	
Do pupils show an appropriate level of awareness	
and understanding of SD and of the knowledge,	
understanding, skills, attitudes and values necessary	
to become a global citizen?	
Are pupils given the opportunity to develop their	
awareness and understanding of ESDGC through	
extra-curricular activities?	
Does the school have adequate resources for ESDGC?	
Are staff sufficiently trained to teach ESDCG?	
Does the school have a good understanding of ESDGC?	
Does the school have a policy on ESDGC?	
Does the school act sustainably through:	
♦ Effective measures in the use of energy?	
♦ Minimising waste?	
♦ Promoting recycling?	
♦ Supporting healthy lifestyles?	
Is the school engaged in projects that promote ESDGC?	
Has the school gained any award for its work in promoting ESDGC?	

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The way forward / Priorities for improvement:			