



Social Responsibility Charter

At St Giles we take sustainability seriously.

As a socially responsible organisation we commit to the process of continual improvement in the following areas:

Excellence in Environmental Sustainability

- To aim to reuse or recycle our waste within the school or ensure it is disposed of responsibly.
- To aim to purchase products that have a high recycled-material content and/or can be reused or recycled.
- To strive to purchase or rent energy-efficient electrical equipment.
- To ensure our premises operate with energy-efficiency in mind and are well maintained to ensure minimum negative impact on the environment.
- To encourage all staff and students to travel by foot or bike where possible, or to use public transport rather than private vehicles, or trains rather than planes.
- To give our staff training on CSR.
- To aim to reduce water wastage by choosing water efficient equipment when purchasing and making sure our current systems are well maintained.
- To use ethically produced products in our cafes where possible.

Excellence in Sustainability Education

- To make sure that students are aware of the school's commitment to sustainability, our projects and how they can contribute to them while studying with us.
- To include lessons with language and issues related to global environmental, social and financial in our curriculum. We will also give students the opportunity to discuss these topics and share their ideas and experiences in their multinational classes.

For the future we are investigating:

- *Giving students the opportunity to join guided visits to local sites that are significant in relation to issues of sustainability.*
- *Giving all students the opportunity to join local environmental and social volunteer projects while studying with us and encourage them to do the same when they return to their home countries.*
- *Providing students with the option of a course elective dedicated to issues related to sustainable development.*
- *Including the option of volunteer work placements in*
 - *Companies working in the environmental field*
 - *Sustainable development departments of companies*

Excellence in contributing to a sustainable society

- Our students, staff and partners have the opportunity to experience and/or learn about other cultures and countries by being part of, or being in contact with, our hugely international student population.
- To encourage tolerance and acceptance of different cultures and lifestyles to prevent discrimination and prejudice within our schools and in wider society.
- To encourage our staff, students and partners to consider sustainability in all areas of their lives. We will raise awareness of global issues and provide updates on our projects to staff, students and partners.
- To organise staff and student groups who donate their time to local environmental and social projects.
- To run fundraising and awareness raising events for our chosen charities and to aid in worldwide disaster relief.
- To donate money to local and international non-profit organisations.

Through the St Giles Educational Trust:

- We provide scholarships at St Giles International schools. These give the opportunity to study English, to students who may not otherwise be able to do so because of finance or circumstance.
- We are involved in the development of courses and materials for educational projects in less development countries.
- Our teacher-trainers and teachers can travel to less developed countries to assist in educational projects in paid or volunteer placements.
- We carry out research in English language teaching and are continually involved in the development of English language education.
- We train native speakers to be English language teachers (CELTA & TESOL), giving them the opportunity to travel and work abroad and experience different cultures.
- We provide training and development to non-native teachers of English so that they can improve and update their skills which benefit their native education systems.
- We provide free English lessons open to all members of the local community during our teacher training courses.