Environmental Sustainability Policy

At Muddy Puddles Childcare we wish to support children to learn about sustainable practices and foster respect and care for living and non-living environments, in line with the DfE Sustainability and climate change strategy.

We provide opportunities for children to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the importance of nature, sustainability, and the causes and impact of climate change through their learned and lived experiences. Children are able to develop positive attitudes and values about sustainable practices by exploring solutions to environmental issues, learning about the world around them and how to protect it and watching adults role model positive sustainable actions and solutions.

We promote a holistic, open-ended curriculum which explores ideas and practices for environmental sustainability and helps children understand the interdependence between people and the environment by:

- Helping children to spend time in nature, and explore it through art and play
- Supporting children to experience the natural environment through natural materials like wood, stone, sand and recycled materials
- Supporting the environment by learning how to grow and nurture plants in the nursery garden and discovering all about the food cycle by growing, harvesting and cooking food
- Helping children to learn about water conservation, energy efficiency and waste reduction through play-based activities and adult interactions
- Going on nature walks and learning about plants they see on the farm
- Encouraging children to become actively involved in recycling.
- As a nursery we will embed sustainability into all aspects of the operations including:
- Recycling materials for art and creative activities
- Considering our carbon footprint when purchasing materials
- Shopping local where possible
- Turning off equipment and lights when not in use
- Using energy saving light bulbs
- Not leaving any equipment on standby
- Unplugging all equipment at the end of its use/the day
- Using energy saving wash cycles on the washing machine
- Hanging washing out to dry and/or using clothes horses
- Composting food waste
- Incorporating water-wise strategies such as ensuring taps are turned off and leaks fixed
- Using potable water rainwater butts for outdoor water play and to water plants outside

Working together with all our parents and partners will help our environment to be more sustainable and make it a better place for our future generations to grow up in. We assess our nursery's impact on the environment on a regular basis and put procedures in place to counteract this impact.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for Review
01/02/2026	Heather Black	01/02/2027