

# Sustainability Policy

## 1. Vision Statement

At Bunyan Preschool, we are committed to embedding sustainability into our daily routines. We aim to teach young children the importance of caring for our planet through **play-based learning and real-life experiences**, nurturing environmentally responsible behaviours that will last a lifetime.

Our nominated sustainability lead: **Barbara Wlodarczyk**

## 2. Key Focus Areas & Actions

### A. Reducing Waste & Recycling

- Encourage children to recycle by clearly labelling bins for general waste and recycling. Visual posters will guide what can be placed in each bin.
- Promote reusable containers and encourage families to provide litter-free packed lunches.
- Use recycled materials for arts and crafts instead of purchasing new supplies whenever possible.

### B. Energy & Water Conservation

- Teach children and remind staff to turn off lights when leaving a room, using visual reminders as prompts.
- Encourage turning off taps while washing hands to reduce water wastage.

### C. Outdoor Learning & Nature Connection

- Take children outside regularly for nature walks to explore local biodiversity.
- Use the garden area for children to plant and care for flowers, fruits, and vegetables.
- Introduce bug hotels, bird feeders, and hedgehog or squirrel houses to support wildlife.
- Engage children in leaf collecting, sensory play, and outdoor storytelling to foster a love for nature.

### D. Sustainable Resources

- Use eco-friendly practices such as refilling soap and washing liquid dispensers from larger reusable bottles instead of single-use small pots.
- Choose wooden or recycled materials for toys and furniture rather than plastic.
- Reduce paper waste by using whiteboards, reusable writing boards, and recycled paper.

### E. Eco-Friendly Transport & Air Quality

- Encourage walking or cycling for drop-offs and pickups whenever possible.

- Educate children about the importance of clean air.
- Organize “Walk to Preschool” challenges with rewards for participation.

#### **F. Climate Awareness & Early Education**

- Read books and tell stories about nature, recycling, and caring for the Earth.
- Engage in songs and activities that promote sustainability (e.g., sorting recyclables).
- Celebrate Earth Day and other environmental events with themed activities.
- Involve children in small eco-projects, such as growing plants or upcycling old materials.

#### **3. Staff & Family Engagement**

- Provide families with simple sustainability tips to encourage eco-friendly practices at home.
- Share updates on noticeboards and through regular communications.

#### **4. Monitoring & Review**

- Assign an Eco Champion from the staff team to oversee progress and coordinate initiatives.
- Conduct an annual review to update and improve the action plan based on feedback and new ideas.