

WALFORD MILL EDUCATION TRUST LTD

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



WALFORD MILL

1. Our commitment

Walford Mill Education Trust (WMET) is a registered charity which promotes crafts and making through workshops, exhibitions and events, and by providing working space for established and emerging makers. The day to day operation of the trust is currently managed by the trustees and the resident makers, with the support of the part time Trust Administrator and Site Coordinator.

WMET recognises that it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of the way we operate Walford Mill and develop the services delivered by the charity.

2. Policy aims

We endeavour to:

- Comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- Increase the environmental awareness of everyone who works in and uses Walford Mill

This will be done through:

3. Minimising waste and recycling more

- We will minimise the use of paper.
- We will seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper and packaging products.
- We will reuse and recycle all paper and packaging where possible.
- We will recycle all items that can be recycled in accordance with local regulations.
- We will repurpose items whenever possible.

4. Energy and water

- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible.
- Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use.

- Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind.
- The energy consumption and efficiency of new items will be considered when purchasing.
- We will investigate opportunities for reducing our carbon footprint through the support and grants available from agencies such as Low Carbon Dorset.
- We will investigate opportunities for reducing our carbon footprint by taking advantage of the water and solar power available to us at Walford Mill.

5. Office and craft supplies

- We will evaluate if the need can be met in another way.
- We will evaluate if renting/sharing is an option before purchasing equipment.
- We will evaluate the environmental impact of any new products we intend to purchase.
- We will favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products wherever possible.
- We will reuse and recycle everything we are able to.

6. Transportation

- We will reduce the need to travel, restricting to necessity trips only.
- We will promote the use of travel alternatives such as email or online conferencing platforms.
- We will make additional efforts to accommodate the needs of those using public transport or bicycles.

7. Maintenance and cleaning

- Cleaning materials used will be as environmentally friendly as possible.
- Materials used in refurbishing the Mill building and grounds will be as environmentally friendly as possible.
- We will only use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.

8. Monitoring and improvement

- We will comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- We will continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- We will continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- We will incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- We will increase employee awareness through training.
- We will ask the core of resident makers to review environmental performance at their meetings and include in their meeting summaries to the Board.

- We will review this policy and any related business issues annually at Trustee Board Meetings.

9. Culture

- We will involve staff and makers in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance.
- We will update this policy at least once annually in consultation with staff, makers and other stakeholders where necessary.
- We will provide staff and makers with relevant environmental training.
- We will work with suppliers, contractors and sub-contractors to improve their environmental performance.
- We will use local labour and materials where available to reduce CO₂ and help the community.

10. Responsibility

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that the environmental policy is implemented. However, everyone that works for the trust in a paid or unpaid capacity or works in the building as a maker or tutor has a responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met.

This policy will be monitored and reviewed annually.

Last reviewed and approved by WMET Board 12 March 2024

Version 1.6