



cetb
Bord Oideachais agus
Oiliúna Chorcaí
Cork Education and
Training Board

Sustainability Policy

1. Introduction and Mission

Gaelcholáiste Charraig Uí Leighin is committed to fostering a school environment that is environmentally friendly. As a school community, we recognize our responsibility toward the climate and the environment. This policy is designed to promote sustainable practices in the daily life of the school, aligning with the values of the Gaelcholáiste regarding respect, community, and the future.

2. Policy Aims

- **Awareness:** To increase the school community's understanding of environmental issues through the school curriculum and extra-curricular activities.
- **Waste Reduction:** To strictly implement the "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" approach.
- **Energy Conservation:** To reduce electricity and water consumption in the school.
- **Sustainable Travel:** To encourage students and staff to walk, cycle, or use public transport.

3. Key Areas of Action

A. Waste Management

- Utilize segregated bins (recycling, general waste, and compost) throughout the school.
- Encourage students to bring in a "waste-free" lunch. For example reusable bottles, avoid single-use bottles.
- **Paperless Policy:** Communicate with parents through Tyro and/or email to reduce paper use.

B. Energy and Water

- Turn off lights and technological equipment at the end of every class.
- Investment in energy-efficient appliances whenever possible.
- Monitor water usage and repair leaks immediately.

C. Biodiversity and the School Environment

- Development of a wild area on school grounds to protect bees and local nature.
- Reduce the use of chemicals or pesticides on school grounds.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- **The Board of Management:** Support sustainability projects and provide resources.
- **The Green Committee:** An active committee of students and teachers who will lead the Green Flag and awareness campaigns.
- **School Staff:** To lead by example for students regarding resource conservation.
- **The Students:** To respect the school environment and take an active part in Green Committee projects.

5. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or as necessary, to measure the school's progress against our environmental goals.

Chairperson's Signature: _____

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____