



## **Sustainability Policy Statement**

This policy statement sets out the College's aims for sustainable development. The College is committed to implementing actions to deliver the aims set out below. These actions will promote and embed sustainable development in all aspects of the College's activities.

Bedford College has a reputation as a national leader in the provision of Energy & Sustainability training. The College was awarded the only Skills for Energy CoVE in the UK, and intends to lead the Further Education sector in sustainable development in both its operations and curriculum.

Bedford College is committed to the principles of sustainability and minimising the adverse impact of its activities on the environment. This sustainability policy has been produced to endorse this commitment, advise College staff and students of required environmental practice at the College, and promote the commitment of the College to sustainability to all interested outside parties. The policy encompasses the guidance from the Learning and Skills Council document 'From Here to Sustainability'.

Bedford College recognises that its operations have an effect on the local, regional and global environment and that it can contribute towards the conservation and protection of the environment. As a consequence, the College is committed to continuous improvements in environmental performance and the minimisation of waste and pollution. Environmental regulations, laws and codes of practice will be regarded as setting the minimum standards of environmental performance. Bedford College has resolved to improve its own environmental practices.

## **Key Aims**

### **Energy efficiency and waste management**

- To ensure that College business is conducted in a manner that improves energy efficiency and seeks to eliminate waste.

### **Building and estates**

- To embed the principles of sustainability in the design of new buildings and building systems.
- To ensure completed developments achieve Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) Excellence or equivalent.
- To ensure that the management of existing buildings minimizes the environmental impacts of the energy consumed.

### **Curriculum**

- To promote sustainable citizenship and ecological awareness through sustainable development education within the College curriculum.

### **Transport**

- To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport by encouraging staff and students to use public transport, car share and cycle to get to College.