

**Aberdare Community
School
Ysgol Gymunedol
Aberdâr**



**Education for Sustainable Development and
Global Citizenship Policy**

Date Adopted	12 th July 2023
Signature of Headteacher	<i>E. Morgan</i>
Signature of Chair of Governors	Mrs E Bryant
Date to be reviewed	July 2025

Aberdare Community School has a framework for action on sustainability. We seek the integration of ESD and GC into the life of the school and its staff and students. ESD and GC provides an opportunity to encourage the creation of responsible, healthy global citizens.

Aberdare Community School has paid due attention to the summary of ESDGC in 'A Common Understanding for Schools' (2008) <https://hwb.gov.wales/storage/eaf467e6-30fe-45c9-93ef-cb30f31f1c90/common-understanding-for-school.pdf>, which is about:

- the links between society, economy and environment and between our own lives and those of people throughout the world
- the needs and rights of both present and future generations
- the relationships between power, resources and human rights
- the local and global implications of everything we do and the actions that individuals and organisations can take in response to local and global issues.

The lives of our pupils are increasingly shaped by the actions, events and issues of other countries around the world. Our pupils need to be equipped with the skills that will develop confidence, critical thinking, communication, co-operation, conflict resolution and empathy, when looking at local and global issues. When developing these skills pupils will need to think about how developments and changes are going to affect future generations and the sustainability of activities around the world.

We are committed to embedding ESDGC in the school curriculum, with the opportunities to contribute to ESDGC coming from many different areas.

- Bat boxes and swallow boxes are already integrated into the build of the school. Landscaping is sympathetic to the development of wild-life habitat and the wetter areas of the land will be used as sources for the planning of lessons in science, technology and geography.
- Students will be given the opportunity to become an active citizen through Y Senedd Aberdar, Eco Committee, Healthy Schools and other departmental groups, as appropriate.
- The development of the COPE curriculum and the Welsh Baccalaureate provide rich opportunities for the development of pupils who understand the role they play in ensuring that we live in a sustainable world and one where we show respect and understanding of the beliefs and values of others.

ESDGC opportunities will be promoted and developed through the curriculum and this will be centrally mapped to show the contribution made by different departments including WB and COPE. ESDGC should not be a separate or explicit lesson. Specific events will take place throughout the school year; fund raising e.g. Macmillan Coffee Morning, Duke of Edinburgh, Fair Trade week, competitions and projects, visits from outside agencies and stand-alone events where relevant.

The following are examples of how the school carries out activities towards the seven ESDGC themes set out by DCELLS (2008):

- 1. Consumption and Waste:** Recycling, Eco-Schools, Healthy Eating, Using school grounds
- 2. Choices and Decisions:** Racial equality, Anti-bullying, Anti-racism, Charities, Healthy Schools, Numeracy/literacy, Eco-Schools, Fair trade schools.

3. **Health:** Healthy schools
4. **Climate Change:** Eco-Schools, Fairtrade
5. **Identity & culture:** Racial Equality, Anti-racism, diversity
6. **The Natural Environment:** Eco Schools
7. **Wealth & Poverty:** Fair trade, Charities

ESDGC

School Management

It is the aim of the school as an organisation to reduce the 'foot print' left by the school in future generations. It is our policy to conserve energy and to reduce waste.

The site manager, the staff and pupils will work with RCT to make the school economically efficient and part of a sustainable world.

- installation of taps which turn off
- use of water efficiently in toilets and on site
- installation of lights that turn off
- reviewing our ability to control heat in different parts of the school
- recycling paper
- recycling our school uniform
- recycling IT equipment
- recycling printing consumables

Each of these measures will be periodically reviewed.

Curriculum

ESDGC is integrated into the curriculum. Care and understanding of the environment is prominent in the schemes of work of most subjects ranging from those where it is a natural part of the syllabus as in Science, Geography, Technology, RS and History, to those where it is a theme for debate as in English, Welsh and MFL or where it is a focus of a project, as in Art, Technology, ICT, Business etc. Departments identify opportunities within their schemes of work and development plans to promote ESDGC. PSE takes a lead in promoting cross curricular issues of good citizenship, education discouraging substance abuse and the Healthy Schools agenda.

Teaching and Learning

ESDGC is taught through an issues-based approach where students role play the decision making process. Pupils form an integral part of the consultation process, informing decisions and prioritising action through Y Senedd Aberdar and the Eco-Committee. These bodies assist in the development of the concept of ownership, involvement and partnership.

Environmental Indicators and Grounds and Learning Environment

Areas of the school grounds have been identified as areas of conservation and the Learning House provision will support the development of these areas. Bird boxes and bat boxes are in place. Other environmental study opportunities are also built into our forward planning. The school grounds and river margins will be developed as sanctuary areas and as areas to be enjoyed by the staff, students and local community as recreational and study environments.

The nine 'key concepts' below will underpin ESDGC. These are:

- interdependence

- citizenship and stewardship
- needs and rights
- diversity
- sustainable change
- quality of life
- uncertainty and precaution
- values and perceptions
- conflict resolution

The above concepts can be covered through the themes below:

- Choices and decisions
- Health
- Identity and culture
- Wealth and poverty
- Consumption and waste
- Climate change
- The natural environment.

Through the curriculum departments are asked to:

- Flag up on SOW where ESDGC is being taught.
- Provide relevant information to ESDGC co-ordinator so that a whole school plan can be drawn up.
- Cross curricular planning of ESDGC events both small and whole school events.

The tables below may be used as both a whole school self-assessment and a tracking sheet for each department to plot/track where ESDGC fits into their curriculum.

Health and Safety

We adhere to the requirements and recommendations of the LA's Health and Safety Policy. Parental permission is sought for all work off site and also in these activities in the school grounds that involve pupils taking action. Advice is taken from outside agencies.

Arrangements for Reviewing the Policy

The policy was agreed by the Governors on 18th May 2022 and will be reviewed on a regular basis at in accordance with curriculum changes from Welsh Government & Qualifications Wales.

Departmental tracking of ESDGC

Theme	Process	Evidence	Outcomes
Choices and decisions			
Health			
Identity and culture			
Wealth and poverty			
Consumption and waste			
Climate change			
The natural environment.			

Whole school self-assessment for ESDGC

Aspect	Process	Evidence	Outcomes
Commitment & Leadership			
Teaching and learning			
School Management			
Partnerships & Community			
Research and monitoring			

