



Introduction

S.N. Cill Conla is committed to fostering a culture of sustainability in our school and community. As a rural primary school, we recognise our responsibility to prepare pupils to live as informed, responsible global citizens who respect and protect the natural environment while promoting inclusion, equality, and wellbeing.

This Sustainability Policy supports the aims of **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to 2030** and the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Our Vision

We will provide a **whole-school approach** to sustainability that:

- Develops pupils' **knowledge, skills, and values** for sustainable living.
- Embeds sustainability into **curriculum, teaching, and learning**.
- Ensures our school operates in an **environmentally responsible** manner.
- Strengthens links between school, families, and the **local community**.
- Promotes **equity, inclusion, and wellbeing** for all learners.

Key Policy Commitments

1. Curriculum Integration

- Incorporate sustainability themes (biodiversity, climate action, global citizenship, cultural diversity) into **SESE, SPHE, Science, Geography, Wellbeing, and other subject areas**.
- Provide **outdoor learning opportunities** through our new Outdoor Classroom and local natural environment.

2. School Environment & Operations

- Reduce energy and water use through simple actions (switch-off campaigns, leak monitoring).
- Promote **waste reduction, reuse, and recycling** across the school.
- Support biodiversity by maintaining green areas, pollinator-friendly planting, and outdoor habitats.

3. Inclusion & Equity

- Ensure that all sustainability activities are accessible to **disadvantaged learners and pupils with disabilities**.
- Encourage **student voice** and leadership through the Eco Committee / Student Council.

4. Community & Local Action

- Partner with parents, local groups, and volunteers in sustainability projects (tree planting, outdoor classroom maintenance, local clean-up days).
- Share sustainability learning with the wider community.

5. Capacity Building

- Provide **professional development** for teachers and staff on ESD methodologies.
- Encourage peer-to-peer learning and cross-age mentoring among pupils.

Monitoring & Evaluation

- The **Board of Management** and teaching staff will review progress annually.



- Pupils will be involved in **measuring and reporting** on energy use, biodiversity monitoring, and sustainability activities.
- An **annual Sustainability Report** will be shared with the school community.

Policy Status

This is the first Sustainability Policy Statement adopted by **S.N. Cill Conla (18214S)**.

It will guide our ESD work, including our **Outdoor Classroom project**, and ensure sustainability is embedded in all aspects of school life.

Ratified by the Board on 1/10/25