



Environmental Strategy, Actions and Targets

September 2024

Patterdale Hall, part of Bolton School Ltd, is committed to minimising the impact of its activities and operation on the environment and educating those who visit on environmental aspects.

The key points of its strategy to achieve this are:

- Minimise waste by evaluating operations and ensuring they are as efficient as possible **(Reduce)**.
- Minimise emissions through careful use of its vehicle fleet and the source of its power and heat requirements.
- Actively promote **re-using** and **recycling**, both internally and amongst its customers and suppliers.
- Source goods to minimise the environmental impact of both production and distribution (buy local and sustainable produce where possible).
- Meet or exceed the environmental legislation that relates to the Company.
- Choose activity venues that are sustainable with the environment in mind and minimise impact at those venues.
- Involve guests in the environmental decision making, educate them and inspire them to look after the environment through generating a respect and love of the natural world.
- Contribute to Local and National initiatives where possible, these may include but are not limited to: The John Muir Award, Local Landowner projects, National Park initiatives etc., Eco Initiatives and alike.
- Have in place suitable decontamination procedures when operating outside of the local watercourse, review these regularly.
- Set annual targets for the implementation and development of this strategy and appropriate actions.



In practice, some examples of things we are doing:

The Centre

- Recycling paper, card, glass, tins and cans and plastics – Multiple collecting points around the centre feed into a service which we pay for from Cumbria Waster and Recycling.
- Recycling Metal with Edenhall Salvage
- Composting garden waste
- Using our own fallen timber to contribute to heating the Hall
- Conserving the grounds and promoting Biodiversity.
- Source food from local suppliers who source food locally
- Removal of invasive species with partner organisations (Rhododendron, Laurel, Skunk Cabbage, Himalayan Balsam)
- Limiting the use of paper – printing on both sides
- Procurement of Electricity only from green sources with Brook Green.
- Use of 200kw of Biomass boilers burning EN A1 plus pellets from sustainable forests.

The Activities

- Involve students in the John Muir award or other environmental initiatives.
- Use a sanitation tube to remove and transport waste from camp
- Careful choice of wild camping locations and education
- Rinsing and drying activity equipment thoroughly
- Rotating the use of our Bushcraft areas
- Managing the access for Thornhow Crag and Oxford Crag
- Protecting the cliffs from excessive wear with rope protectors (helps both to protect rock and ropes).
- Sacrificial venues used in some respects.
- Avoiding using certain sensitive venues
- Educating and inspiring future generations
- Downgrading and reusing equipment and resources before decommissioning and careful disposal
- Use of an iPad and Paper Trail software to save paper
- Training of staff on PPE inspection to maximise life of equipment.
- Storing information on the computer digitally rather than printing and filing



Specific Targets for 2024/25

- Increase the amount and quality of recycling carried out at the centre – sort more waste, improve signage.
- Replant 50 trees around the estate. Plan for future planting.
- Thin out Silver Birch to encourage diversity of habitats and maintain a sustainable supply of bushcraft resources.
- Continue development of tree nursery feeding trees onto the site.
- Remove Larch plantation in line with the Estate Management Plan, continue with plans for the King Charles III mixed species woodland.
- Reduce electricity consumption through the reduction of portable heating appliance and the management of extractor units in the Coach House.
- Maintain and strengthen links and interaction with the Bolton School Eco Committee, exploring opportunities for cross function with their activities.

A review of the targets will be undertaken in September each year with new targets identified for the year ahead.