



ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY SUMMARY

February 2020



Foreword from Liz Bromley



I am delighted to present NCG's Environmental Strategy. Our ambition is to become the most sustainable College Group in the UK, and to help shape regional initiatives to reduce carbon emissions and our own carbon footprint, wherever we are located.

We want to be known for our positive contribution to environmental sustainability, just as much as for the outstanding quality of our teaching and our students' learning experience and outcomes. We recognise that in today's world all our stakeholders, whether staff, students or our local communities have increasingly high expectations of us.

Due to our size as a Group and the national reach we have across our Colleges, we aim to be a leader in sustaining our environment and reducing our impact on it. To do this we have to have an Environmental Strategy at the core of our business – covering everything we do whether teaching, running our departments, getting to and from work, or planning for the future.

This strategy will ensure our continual improvement in how we live and work and have an impact on our environment. We focus on eight key areas of development over the next 10 years.

Introduction

Background

In 2020 Newcastle College Group ('NCG') set out to create a Environmental Strategy that would take a holistic approach to reducing its impact on the environment.

NCG Strategic plan

This key strategy will align directly to the “NCG Our Strategy Towards 2030” by linking in with Strategic Theme 4: Outstanding digital and physical learning environments.

NCG will use the baseline of 2018/19 academic year as the foundation for these reductions. This will look as follows:

KPI	2022	2030
% Reduction in carbon footprint across our estate and activity	15%	50%
Tonnes of CO ₂ reduction needed	1265	4217

Environmental Strategy Objectives

NCG has created 8 principles that will become the foundation of its approach in reducing its environmental impact.

- reduce our carbon footprint whilst still maintaining a growth in student numbers
- reduce the need for employees to travel for work
- gain ISO 14001:2015 accreditation (Eco Campus Platinum)
- minimise our water usage across the estate
- drive down single use plastics from our operations as well as general waste
- all students to get basic sustainability awareness training
- minimise our food waste across operations
- increase our biodiversity across the group

Principles



Intent

NCG has a vision of becoming the most sustainable college group in the UK. This will allow our colleges to provide high-quality teaching, whilst minimising its impact on the environment.

Implementation

We will have the environment and sustainability at the core of our business values and how we operate. This will be evident in successful certification in ISO14001.

Impact

NCG will be a college destination of choice for students who want to learn and socialise in a setting that minimises our impact on the environment.

Targets

Scope	Target	Due Date
Energy (Gas & Electricity)	50% reduction in CO ₂ related activities	2030
Travel	50% reduction in CO ₂ related activities	2030
Eco Campus	Platinum Award	2025
Water	10% reduction in water usage	2030
Waste	Zero to landfill and year on year reduction in waste	2030
Curriculum	Environmental awareness course to be available to all students	2022
Food	50% reduction in food waste	2030
Biodiversity	5% Increase in biodiversity	2030

Delivery Plans

NCG will work with each of the colleges and the executive lead to create annual plans on what the group will focus on for each academic year.

Each principle above except for curriculum will have an associated action plan that sets out how we are going to reach these targets along with the actions that we will take.

Everything that NCG is doing can be found on our internal Intranet page:

[NCG Environmental Information](#)