

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

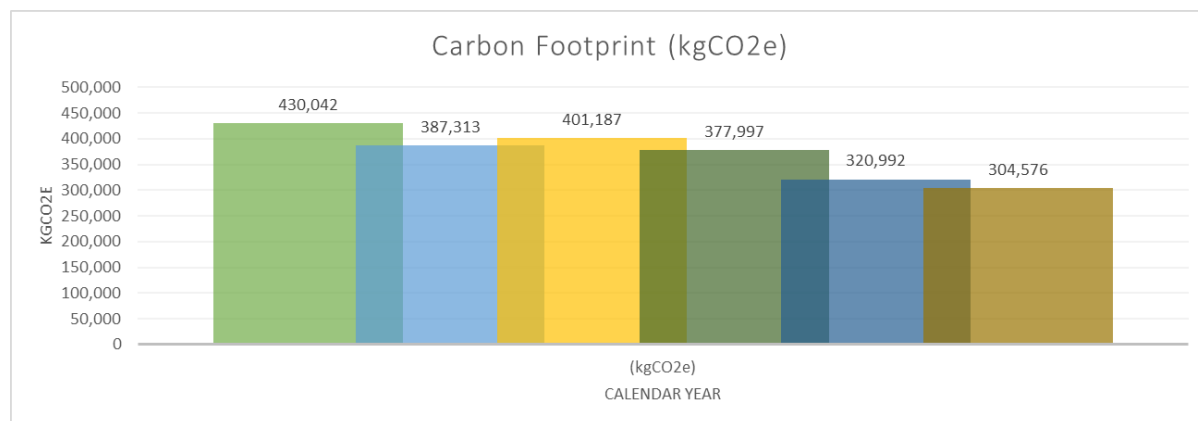
Mission Statement

Bird College is committed to apply sustainable development across college activities, working closely with staff, students and our wider community to help change the world for the better, aligning with the Colleges' core values.

COMMITTEE → Staff and Student Reps → Termly Meetings → Actions → Continuous Improvement Plan → COMMITTEE

If you are interested in joining our committee or have a suggestion, please contact Our Green Champion, Paul Mancini

Carbon Footprint



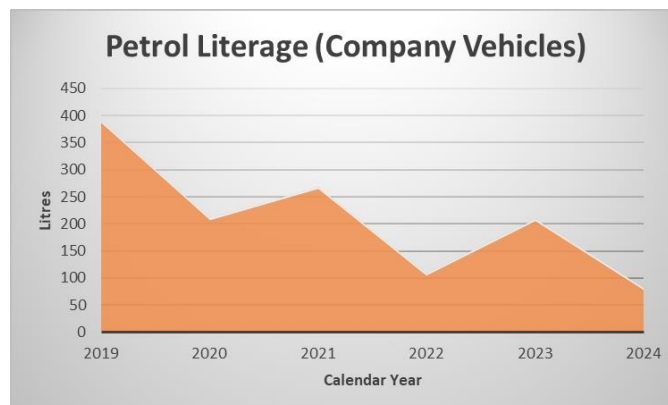
Based on a combination of parameters, our current Carbon Footprint is in line with industry standards (**Carbon Trust, 2021**)

Our mid-year prediction is currently minimum 5.11% overall footprint reduction by end of 2024

The above include 5 months' consolidated figures (combining Gas, Electric, F-Gas and Diesel) and 7 months predicted.

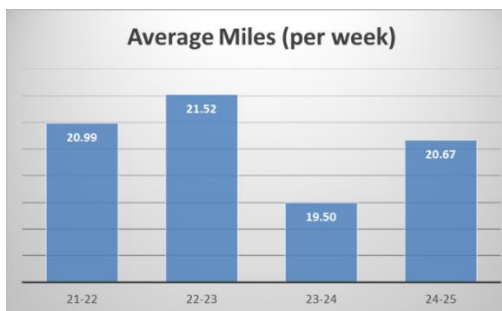
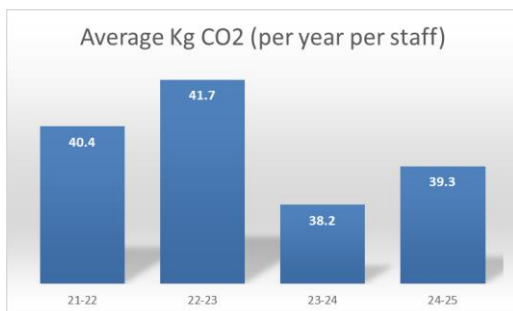
Our annual target is to reduce by 5%. We are hoping to achieve nearer 10% realistically.

🚗 **Petrol Usage: We are tracking staff travel to work (respective CO2 (Kg) and litres used by our company vans**



- The recruitment of our experienced and talented set builder Dave Kerry has meant we have been able to order a vast increase in raw materials and thus means a steep decline in van use to collect set.
- Alongside our decision to sell our non-ULEZ compliant large van **our usage versus 2023 has reduced by 61%**
- This equates to **less than 25% of the usage we witnessed in 2019** since we collected data.

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024



- Versus our starting point in 2022, trends have improved, with a slight increase the start of 2024.
- However, our response rate is at 92.3% now, so results are accurate.
- STAFF: Have your driving to work habits changed recently? Do you use public transport or cycle more?
- If so – let us know so we can adjust our records. If everyone could find a more sustainable route to work, just 1 day a week, this CO2 (Kg) reduction would equal 108 trees saved per year!!
- The college has struck up a deal with Halford and Salary Extra's to help staff acquire discounted deals on bikes and e-bikes. Speak to your HR rep today @ HR@birdcollege.co.uk for more information

1 Day per week using foot, train, bus or bike = 108 x  saved

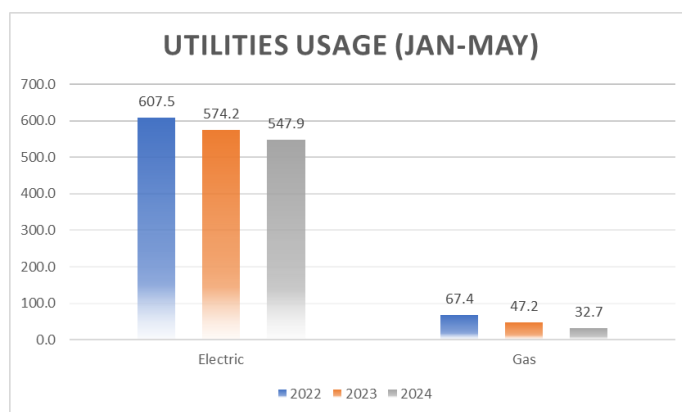


Grab life by the handlebars

Great savings on a new bike or e-bike



Utilities



ELECTRIC

1. Standing item in staff meeting (MTD / Yr on Yr comparison discussed)
2. Green Champion Year on Year tracking and updates to teams weekly
3. Office Lamps continually changed to LED
4. Teaching room fluorescents changed
5. Wellbeing Foyer upgraded to LED x 32
6. Manual adjustments to External Lighting redundant, due to daylight savings calendar

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

GAS

- A. Install of 12 x heat/cool air conditioning in all offices reducing requirement for gas heating
- B. Active management of thermostats
- C. Repairs of old redundant radiator valves to allow more efficient control
- D. Removal of staff room Gas Boiler (July)
- E. Weekend efficiency behaviours /zonal use

NOTE: Electric savings have become more challenging given the influx of new assets related to HVAC replacements and Air Conditioning throughout the site – however, versus 2023 we are currently tracking an overall reduction of **circa 4.6%**

- ✓ Since 2019, there has been a total decrease in electricity of **23%!!**

Target 16: Replace office old fluorescent lighting in 15 and 126 with high efficiency LED panels

- ✓ We have successfully upgraded the Wellbeing Foyers to LED's brining lifespan of lighting substantially increased but reducing the output in KW by 50% of that area, used 7 days a week almost 12 hours per day due to no natural light
- ✓ We are pursuing most cost-effective transfers of offices 15 and 126, imminently to upgraded to LED

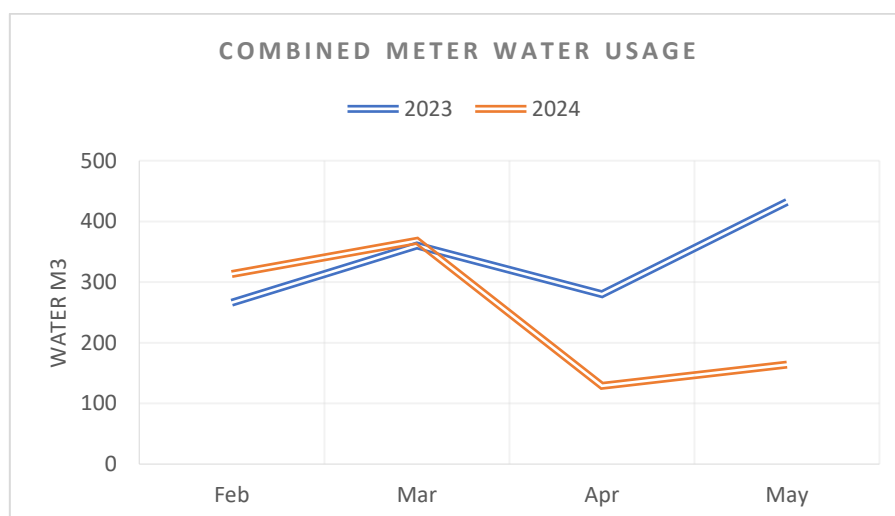
- ✚ **Other teaching space fluorescent lighting to be costed include: 127 and 128**
- ✚ **Continue to replace standing lamps upon failure with LED upgrade, as and when.**

Target 15: Complete South Block Plant Room Gas Boiler Upgrade

- The main assets in our original main plant room are over 30 years old now, but we only have 25% still operating.
 - Our 24/25 Capital investments schedule now includes a 2nd condensing boiler to operate alongside a new one purchased in December. A full new schematic system will also include buffer tank & heat exchange to protect water quality and prolong boiler life cycles while meeting current regulations. Costs are still under budget consideration.
 - This is a huge investment. We are working hard with our HVAC partners, AIM Mechanical to hopefully achieve this.
 - Not only will this safeguard the college for 20-25 years, but the equipment will immediately behave at circa 30% higher efficiency than the current system due to age and suitability. This will achieve financial and carbon savings.
- ✓ **Versus 2023, we are already confident to achieve a total annual Gas reduction of circa 31%**
 - ✓ **Versus 2019 the total reduction is a whopping 52%**
 - ✚ **In 2024/25, we hope to complete the above Plant Room upgrade and achieve another 20% Gas reduction**

Target 14: Target a college-wide decrease in water usage by 5% versus 2023

- Our Current total combined usage is **974 m3 (Jan-May)**
- This is actually a drop in usage on 27% overall which is a positive start versus 2023



Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

- ✚ Alongside ensuring we analyse how our usage is affected by our other contributor, Birkbeck Primary
- ✚ We are liaising monthly with Birkbeck Primary on their sub-metering totals

The [Water Regulation Advisory Scheme \(WRAS\)](#) asked consumers about their everyday water usage habits* to identify the most common habits for water inefficiency. Using less water is not only good for the environment, it can save money too.

Water Regs UK, 2024 – Check [HERE](#) for more tips to help save water

Suppliers and Procurement

Target 17: Work with 2/3 existing, trusted suppliers who have not yet shown policy/accreditation

- ✓ This continues to be a valuable and productive exercise, leaving us very close to achieving 85%+ from Dec 23.
 - ✓ We have started working with the new textile company who have helped this increase and we continue to seek alternative contractors who show a stronger willingness to demonstrate sustainable ethos, within our budget.
 - ✓ As is demonstrated below, the percentage of our suppliers who are now either accredited or have sound policy is basically increasing year on year.
- ✚ **We continue to try maximise our current provision (> 85% in 2024) encouraging our existing suppliers to explore accreditation and policy making.**



Target 6: Find cost effective eco-alternatives to our currently sourced clear and bag bin bags and general consumable stock.

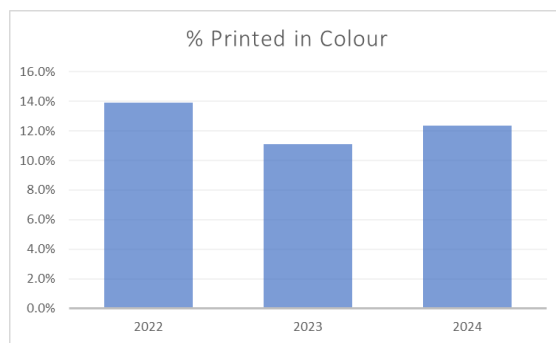
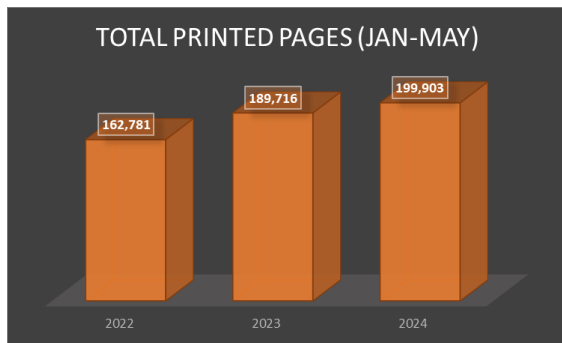
- ✓ We continue to order general stock from one main supplier to reduce deliveries.
 - ✓ We order Eco wipes which are 100% Biodegradable and Paper FSC Eco recyclable (5g.m lighter)
 - ✓ Biodegradable food bags
- ✚ **We are in the process of stock supply review with our main suppliers for cost-effective eco-alternatives**

Recycling / Waste

Printing at the start of this year has continued to escalate a touch versus previous years, reaching a 7.6% increase in total

- ❖ All scripts are now printed which takes the bulk of this process.
- ❖ Our Outstanding Ofsted inspection is recognised to have contributed heavily to the increase particularly in January, which was almost 50% higher than last January.
- ❖ Colour printing seems to have increased marginally, in line with the overall increase @ 1.2% higher than 2023

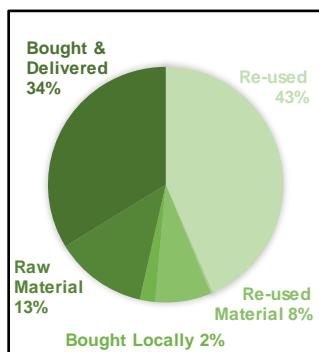
Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024



✚ A continuation of the production teams' work around musical resources are below.
 ✓ In line with our Climate Crisis Working Group and framework provided in **The Green Book** by the National Theatre

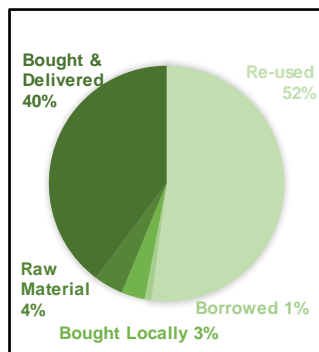
2022 AVERAGE

SHOW'S HISTORY	%
Re-used	43.5
Borrowed	0.3
Re-used Material	7.7
Bought Locally	2.1
Raw Material	12.7
Bought & Delivered	33.8



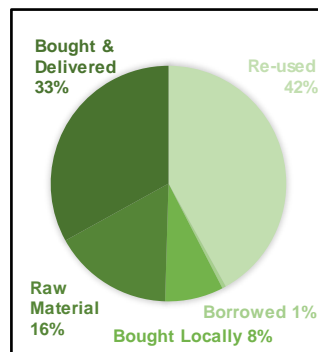
2023 AVERAGE

ITEM'S HISTORY	%
Re-used	52
Borrowed	0.9
Re-used Material	0
Bought Locally	3.2
Raw Material	4
Bought & Delivered	39.7

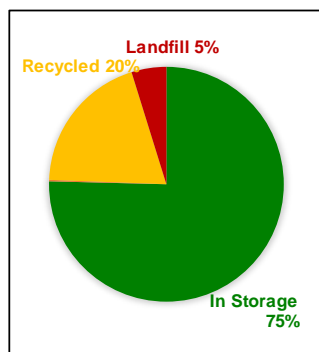


2024 AVERAGE

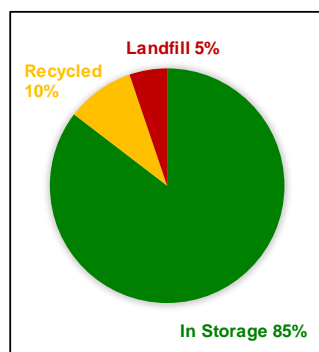
ITEM'S HISTORY	%
Re-used	41.9
Borrowed	0.52
Re-used Material	0
Bought Locally	8.04
Raw Material	16.5
Bought & Delivered	33.03



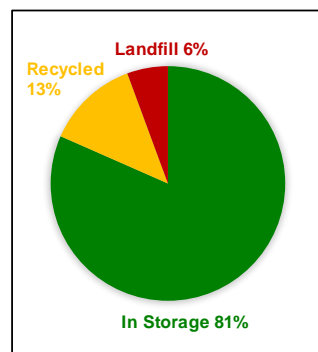
SHOW'S FUTURE	%
In Storage	75.4
Broken Down	0.2
Recycled	19.6
Landfill	4.8



ITEM'S FUTURE	%
In Storage	85.4
Broken Down	0
Recycled	9.4
Landfill	5.2



ITEM'S FUTURE	%
In Storage	81.58
Broken Down	0
Recycled	12.77
Landfill	5.63



Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

- ❖ In summary, 2024 has recycled 3% more than in 2023.
- ❖ We have re-used less by 10% and this is under-pinned by an increase in raw materials of 12% versus 2023, but usefully, a larger portion of this was purchased locally (6% higher) due to wealth of experience of set builder
- ❖ The volume of materials going to Land fill has stayed stagnant which is helpful around 5%. Given our restricted storage – we feel this will be difficult to improve, so will be happy to keep this minimally around 5-6%
- ❖ As discussed, the recruitment of an experienced set-builder gave us access to more sustainable staging solutions, collaborating with local theatre companies and schools sharing keys pieces: flooring, lockers and seating banks
- ❖ *Partners of ours this season include local dramatic societies and:*



- ❖ The theatre climate crisis goals are now shared with producers and creatives for the show season, and this process is aimed at producing deeper planning and consideration to sustainable elements of each production
- ✚ **We are attempting to more accurately apportion the different elements/props in each set to more fairly analyse**
- ✚ **We are hopeful to understand from industry equals how this analysis is performed accurately (Rose Bru/National Theatre) by this is a resource and time intensive exercise requiring the correct relationships**



Do you know anyone in the industry (production/set-building) who works in sustainability?

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!!

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

Target 7: To widen recycling to include: Dance wear, shoes, metals, bags, f-gas contaminants, furniture and water bottles'

Range of recycled materials now in 2024 includes: Batteries, Florescent bulbs, shredding, computer parts, IT equipment (securely), printer cartridges and now Textiles (RagBag Collections)

- ✓ Water bottles are collected in abundance and are recycled in mass at our local refuse centre in Sidcup.
- ✓ We are now also working with another charity who has helped re-purpose old summer camp beds for short courses that we run and water bottles (**Mothers of Africa Cry Out Ltd**)

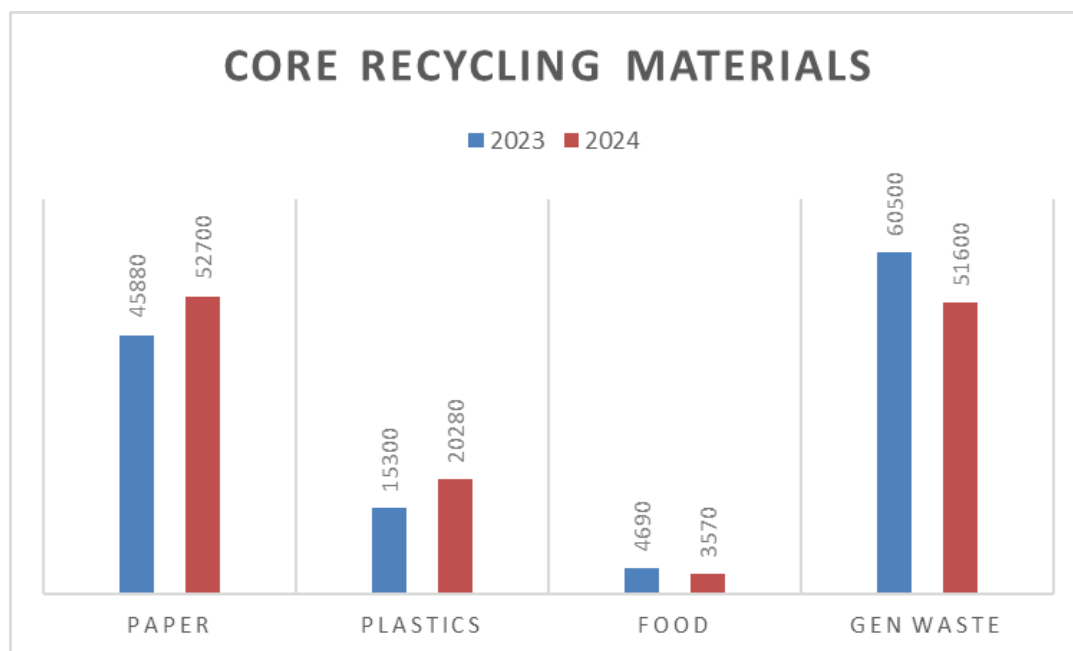
- ✚ **We are continuing to investigate our approach to recycling general furniture and metals**
- ✚ **We are hopeful of achieving a more structured approach to recycling metals with Bexley Council**

Target 8: To create a dedicated recycling hub within the site.

- ✚ **We have a provisional budget to provide 2 sets of dedicated / purpose-built recycling hubs.**
- ✚ This remains an operational target for us this financial year and is again included into 24/25 budget book

Target 10: To show an increase in core recycling materials as a percentage of the total volume of waste produced (Paper, Plastics and Food).

- ⊖ Last Year (2023) our Plastics, Paper and general Waste all showed decreased results versus 2022.
 - ✓ So far, versus 2023 figures, we have finally had increased behaviour:
 - ✓ Paper increase @ 14.9%
 - ✓ Plastics increase @ 32.5%
 - ✓ Which have contributed to a healthy reduction in General Waste by 14.7%
 - ✓ Overall, as a total contribution of the waste produced (which has only risen by 1.4% in total) we have recycled 7.6% more material this year versus 2023 @ 59.7%
- ✚ **Refocus required and communication broadly to staff and students at the start of academic year about impact**



Certification / Accreditation

- ✓ BREEAM accreditation will be under consideration during next site master plan development
- ✓ There are no new developments on any further accreditation and/or certification

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

Engagement / Student Participation

Target 19: To engage on key agendas raised in monthly literature and bi-annual reports on socials

- As part of new agenda, Green Champion compiled an annual calendar of awareness days to bring to staff and student's attention, using in-house literature and social media. For example, so far this year we have pushed:

Month	Awareness Days promoted
January	Veganuary Month 01/01 to 31/01, Houseplant Week 8/01 to 14/01 and Big Garden Birdwatch 26/01 to 28/01
February	World Wetlands Day 02/02
March	World Wildlife Day 03/03, Global Recycling Day 18/03 and World Water Day 22/03
April	Earth Day 22/04 (below), Stop Food Waste Day 24/04
May	Water Saving Week 20/05 to 26/05
June	The Great Big Green Week 08/06 to 16/06 and World Refill Day 16/06

- Please see [HERE](#) for a sample of our literature that we promote around the college
- For one of the main awareness days we produced a fun quiz – [TRY IT HERE](#) and see below for Earth Day

Bird College
Conservatoire for dance and musical theatre

SUSTAINABILITY GOALS FOR EARTH DAY

ELECTRICITY USAGE REDUCTION

Our goal is to reduce daily electricity usage by **33%**, from **337 kW** to **225 kW**.

- Lights will remain off in well-lit offices and walkways.
- Minimal use of external lights in the evening.
- Electric heaters will be turned off.
- Unnecessary equipment will remain off.

How You Can Help:

- Teach in brightly lit studios without artificial lighting.
- Roll up the blinds to use natural light.
- Minimise air conditioning use.
- Avoid plugging in unnecessary devices.
- Skip using the kettle and microwave for the day.
- Try not to charge your phone at work or overnight.

GAS USAGE REDUCTION

Our goal is to cut daily gas usage from **16.5 units** to **8 units** (a **50% reduction**).

How We'll Achieve This:

The gas heating will be turned off for the day.

How You Can Help:

Please bring a jumper to keep warm.

IMPACT ON OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

This is going to hugely affect our Carbon Footprint for the month and save the college hundreds of pounds!!

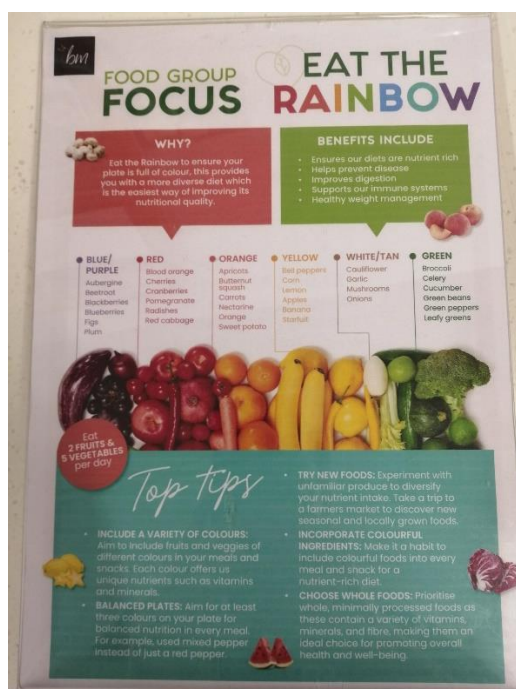
Hundreds of pounds into the pot directly contributes to more sustainable technology to help the college towards Net Zero

- ✓ Please see [HERE](#) on the Bird College Homepage to celebrate the committees' work and progress as an institution
- ✓ 6-monthly updates are publicised, such as this and more information on the committee members are available

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

Catering

- ✓ Bartlett Mitchell have strong sustainable ethics and we are proud and grateful to partner with them. See [ATTACHED](#)
- ✓ Some More Developments in 2024 include:
 1. Catering team completed training on Plant based proteins – [CLICK HERE](#) for more info
 2. Eat with the rainbow, aim to include fruits and vegetables with at least 3 different colours.
 3. We do seasonal stars, highlighting seasonal products with nutritional values on the catering marketing and menus.
 4. We now use 3 different non-dairy milks for coffee.
 5. We have planned for the Autumn term pop ups for Eat with the earth in mind and Charlotte will be doing Nutrition training with free tasters.
 6. We are currently stocking more vegan and Quorn base products.
 7. We are trying to get larger deliveries to cutdown on carbon footprint with less trips to us.
 8. Coffee grinds are provided to staff for composting



Target 18: We aim to reduce the meat offering down to 66% from 90% last year

- ✚ Freshers BBQ in Sept 2024 will aim to provide minimum 33% veggie options versus only 10% last year

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

Ongoing Targets

Target	Context	Decision
Target 6: Find cost effective eco-alternatives to our currently sourced clear and bag bin bags and general consumable stock	We have achieved more sustainable options on 3 out of the 5 high volume order items. But black bags and white bags are demonstrably more expensive. Keep and attempt once more to cost comparison on eco-options for black bags?	Continue in 24/25
Target 7: To widen recycling to include: Dance wear, shoes, metals, bags, f-gas contaminants, furniture and water bottles'	Largely this was achieved. Added in 2022 and 2023 was textiles, computer parts and water bottles.	Include in 24/25 and expand more specifically: Furniture and metals
Target 8: To create a dedicated recycling hub within the site.	Dedicated bins budgeted for 23/24	Continue in 24/25
Target 10: To show an increase in core recycling materials as a percentage of the total volume of waste produced (Paper, Plastics and Food).	Year to date until June, versus 2023 this has decreased by 7.6% so far Communication to all staff and students. Year 1 engagement in September 2024	Revised in 24/25
Target 14: Water Usage Decrease by 5% annually versus 2023	Following 12 months of data capture, we small changes to influence usage at college. We are looking at water proficiency training also for staff and working with our neighbours who share 1 x meter (Birkbeck)	Continue in 24/25
Target 15: Complete South Block Plant Room Upgrade	2 x New Condensing Boilers, Buffer Tank and Heat Exchanger to help us achieve further Gas reduction on our main meter	Continue in 24/25
Target 16: Replace remaining old fluorescent lighting with LED options.	Target 2 x final South Block offices which are using low efficiency fluorescent bulbs, in 15 and 126	Continue in 24/25
Target 17: Achieve 85% of suppliers who work with sustainable practise	Work with 2 or 3 final existing suppliers to help them achieve environmental policy and/or accreditation	Continue in 24/25
Target 18: Sustainable Catering BBQ	We aim to reduce the meat offering down to 66% from 90% last year	Continue in 24/25
Target 19: Social Media engagement	To engage on key agendas raised in monthly literature and bi-annual reports on socials	Continue in 24/25

Proposed Targets

Target	Context	Decision
Student Engagement through Competition		N/A
Carbon Footprint Reduction by 2025		
Theatre shows resources	Setting a target for positive impact on show resources used in 2024 show period versus 23	

Environmental and Sustainable Update – Issue #5 July 2024

Completed / Archived Targets

Target	Context	Decision
Target 1: Move all 3 Electric meters to green energy provider in 2022	Meters became extremely expensive for Green energy at time of renewal due to energy crisis.	Archive 24/25 Metres next available May 24
Target 2: Replace remaining old fluorescent lighting with LED options.	Refine and Keep Target. South Block complete. New target to include Studio 3, 15, 126 and room 8/9 + standing office lamps	Remove as achieved – Sep23
Target 3: Complete Staff Room Boiler replacement	Budgeted and scheduled for completion in August 2023. This will remove the final gas-fed outlet in the South Block.	Remove as achieved – Aug23
Target 4: Install independent water meter following next phases of college site master plan	Indirectly complete following investigation with Birkbeck Primary School. 91% contribution to meter usage.	Remove as achieved – Jul 23
Target 5: Achieve 75% supplier use with those who actively monitor their environmental impact (Policy and Accreditation)	We track all suppliers and contractors sustainable credentials (Policy / ISO). This is extended to production suppliers in 23 Target is 80% > 77.5% in 2022	Remove as achieved – Dec 23
Target 9: To create relationships with registered charities to quantify volumes of donations.	This was achieved and is further achieved with the successful launch of the bin	Remove as achieved – Jul 23
Target 11: Achieve the Hedgehog Friendly Campus Bronze Award	From a resource point of view – this was too demanding unfortunately. I believe we should archive this until 24/25	Archive 24/25
Target 12: Litter picks operated by the students during term time.	Paul does this regularly, and there was some student engagement, but it was sporadic.	Remove as achieved – Jul 23
Target 13: Increase Web and social media presence of college sustainability activities.	Agreed to have a drop-down element of the website now to include updates. Complete 6-monthly updates (July and Jan)	Remove as achieved – Dec 23