



## Sustainable Development Policy

### Background

In March 2005, Scotland signed up to a new UK shared framework for sustainable development 'One future – different paths'. The framework sets out a common goal for sustainable development across the UK: "...to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations"

Scotland is committed to building a sustainable future. Individuals, businesses, local authorities and communities are taking action to change the way we use resources, plan and develop services, and seize the economic opportunities that sustainable development presents.

### Why does sustainability matter?

As we continue into the 21st century countries across the world are facing up to the global threat of unsustainable development, causing damage to such an extent that the planet cannot sustain human life, leading to a world where future generations would no longer have the resources to meet their needs.

This is no longer a distant threat: it is happening now. Unsustainable development across the world is changing habitats and climates, overexploiting resources and creating pollution. If current patterns continue, damage to the natural world will accelerate, not diminish.

### What can we do?

'Choosing our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy' states that we should see a Scotland where:

- Learning for sustainable development is a core function of the formal education system.
- There are lifelong opportunities to learn.
- The sustainable development message is clear and easily understood.

Scotland has the highest percentage of schools in Europe which are involved in the Eco Schools Programme, a whole school approach involving teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and the wider community as well as pupils in learning about sustainable development issues. Abbeyhill Primary School has achieved Bronze and Silver status in the Eco School programme and we are working towards our first Green Flag. Activities include:

- Gardening
- Recycling
- Litter collection
- Waste and energy awareness
- Care for our environment

You can find out more about Sustainable Development and Eco Schools by clicking on these links:

[http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/c/genericresource\\_tcm4616101.asp?strReferringChannel=educationscotland&strReferringPageID=tcm:4-615801-64](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/c/genericresource_tcm4616101.asp?strReferringChannel=educationscotland&strReferringPageID=tcm:4-615801-64)

<http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainable-development-education/eco-schools>