

ADVENTURE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Company No: 379658
Charity No: SC041556

Adventure Centre for Education (ACE)

- **Environmental Policy**

Policy Statement

The Adventure Centre for Education (ACE) is committed to protecting and enhancing the natural environment through everything we do. As a community anchor organisation, outdoor education charity and provider of adventure, environmental and wellbeing activities, we recognise that healthy people depend upon healthy environments.

Our mission is to inspire people to connect with nature while reducing our own environmental impact and encouraging others to become responsible custodians of the places in which they live, work and play.

We are committed to continual improvement in our environmental performance, complying with all relevant environmental legislation and promoting sustainable practices across our organisation, our programmes and our partnerships.

- **Our Commitments**

Energy

We will:

- Monitor and reduce our energy consumption wherever practical.
- Improve the energy efficiency of our buildings and equipment.
- Use energy responsibly and encourage staff and volunteers to adopt energy-saving behaviours.
- Consider renewable and low-carbon energy solutions whenever opportunities arise.

Water

We will:

- Use water responsibly and minimise unnecessary consumption.
- Regularly inspect facilities for leaks or wastage.
- Promote water conservation across our activities and premises.

Waste and Resources

ACE follows the principles of the waste hierarchy by prioritising:

1. Reduce
2. Reuse
3. Repair
4. Recycle
5. Recover where appropriate

We will:

- Reduce the amount of waste generated through our operations.
- Reuse equipment and materials wherever possible.
- Recycle waste responsibly using local facilities.
- Minimise the use of single-use plastics.
- Extend the lifespan of equipment through repair and maintenance.
- Encourage participants to reduce waste during activities and events.

Sustainable Procurement

When purchasing goods and services, ACE will:

- Consider environmental impact alongside quality, cost and value.
- Support local businesses and suppliers where practical.
- Purchase durable, repairable and sustainable products whenever possible.
- Work with suppliers who demonstrate responsible environmental practices.
- Reduce unnecessary packaging and transport emissions.

Travel and Transport

We recognise that transport contributes significantly to carbon emissions.

ACE will:

- Plan journeys efficiently to reduce unnecessary travel.
- Encourage vehicle sharing where appropriate.
- Maintain vehicles to maximise fuel efficiency.
- Consider lower-emission vehicles as opportunities arise.
- Promote active travel where practical for staff, volunteers and participants.

Biodiversity and Nature Recovery

Protecting nature is central to our work.

We will:

- Manage our activities to minimise disturbance to wildlife and sensitive habitats.
- Support habitat restoration and biodiversity enhancement projects.
- Encourage responsible enjoyment of outdoor environments.
- Incorporate environmental education and conservation into our programmes.
- Follow recognised outdoor access principles and promote responsible behaviour in natural spaces.

Carbon Reduction

ACE is committed to reducing its carbon footprint by:

- Monitoring significant sources of emissions.
- Improving operational efficiency.
- Reducing unnecessary consumption of resources.
- Supporting practical environmental projects within our communities.
- Seeking continual improvement in environmental performance.

Environmental Education

Environmental learning is embedded throughout ACE's work.

We will:

- Encourage participants to develop an understanding of environmental responsibility.
- Promote climate awareness through outdoor experiences.
- Inspire people to become active custodians of their local environment.
- Support community-led conservation and environmental volunteering opportunities.

Staff and Volunteers

Everyone within ACE has a responsibility to help protect the environment.

We will:

- Provide appropriate environmental guidance and training.
- Encourage environmentally responsible working practices.
- Support staff and volunteers to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Foster a culture where sustainability is part of everyday decision-making.

Participants, Customers and Communities

Through our activities we will encourage participants, schools, community groups and visitors to:

- Respect the natural environment.
- Leave places better than they found them.
- Reduce waste and unnecessary resource use.
- Appreciate the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.
- Understand the positive relationship between nature, health and wellbeing.

Governance

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that environmental sustainability remains an integral part of ACE's strategic direction.

The Chief Executive is responsible for implementing this policy and ensuring environmental considerations are embedded within organisational planning and operational decision-making.

All staff, volunteers and contractors share responsibility for supporting the objectives of this policy.

Monitoring and Review

ACE will incorporate the principles of this Environmental Policy into its day-to-day operations through:

- Environmental procedures and good working practices.
- Annual environmental objectives and improvement targets.
- Regular monitoring of performance.
- Continuous review of environmental impacts.



- Ongoing staff engagement and training.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees, or sooner if legislation, organisational activities or best practice change significantly.

Approved by: Board of Trustees

Organisation: Adventure Centre for Education (ACE)

Review Cycle: Annual

Next Review Date: July 2027

Company No: 379050
Charity No: SC041556