

Glasgow School of Art Sustainability & Environmental Policy

Glasgow School of Art is situated in the city centre of Glasgow. Its campus includes the historic Mackintosh building & the new Reid building on Renfrew Street, two Halls of Residence and several other older buildings spread across Garnethill. GSA is an internationally renowned institution and is Scotland's only independent art school offering university level degree programmes and undertaking research in architecture, fine art and design, and is rated the top visual art institution in the UK. As of October 2013 GSA has around 1,900 students, 20% of whom are international, 20% from other countries in the UK & 20% post-graduates, supported by 232 full-time & 194 part-time staff.

As a responsible institution we aim to:

operate in a sustainable manner, with due consideration to Scotland's culture & society, environment, and economic wellbeing. We will recognise, and make use of, the power art, design and architecture has in all its forms to inform, raise awareness, celebrate, and challenge issues around sustainability and the environment.

How we will meet this aim

We shall:

- commit to the prevention of pollution, or where this is not possible to the minimisation of pollution;
- build sustainability into our work, curricula & research;
- encourage & support individuals and environmental groups within GSA;
- work with the local community & the FE/HE sector to raise awareness & standards;
- develop & use an Environmental Management System (EMS);
- minimise the use & impact of energy, water, food, transport, procurement & resources;
- protect & encourage biodiversity.

We commit to:

- prevent unnecessary pollution into the environment;
- seek to reduce our carbon emissions within SMART annual targets;
- maintain policies on ethical investment, energy, resources and food;
- adopt and update a carbon management plan every five years;
- integrate this policy into GSA strategic and operational policies;
- make this environmental policy publicly available for scrutiny;
- annually update this policy and publish sustainability results;
- provide a safe work and study place for all our staff, students & visitors;
- use the EMS to conduct strict measuring and auditing of our operations;
- use these standards to foster a culture of continual improvement;
- meet and where appropriate exceed legal & statutory environmental and sector standards;
- require staff, students and suppliers to meet these standards and to assist contractors in developing proportionate standards within their work.