

## 4.19 Environmental Policy Statement

Bryn Melyn recognises that the management and control of all environmental matters is an essential factor relating to the sound management of the business.

Bryn Melyn Care seeks to defend and protect our environment, we believe this can only be achieved by a common effort to reduce waste and use energy wisely and efficiently. To this end we strive, not just to comply with all current environmental legislation, but also to impress upon the young people we care for, the need to be environmentally vigilant.

In areas where the Local Authority operates a recycling system, all children's homes will recycle glass, plastic, aluminium/cans, paper and "Green" waste in the receptacles provided.

In areas where no recycling commitment is made by the local authority, homes are encouraged to make use of central recycling facilities. Young people are also encouraged to take part in the recycling of items from the homes (e.g. assisting in taking items to bottle banks) and generally to be environmentally aware.

Care is also taken wherever purchasing weekly grocery orders that packaging is environmentally friendly and is derived from a sustainable source. To reduce the amount of packaging waste, fresh locally produced foods are always to be preferred to packaged, tinned or imported foods and items.

In order to reduce the amount of waste paper, electronic means (e-mail and data file transfers) are the preferred method of communications throughout the company.

All homes must ensure that lighting, heating and water are not wasted. Lights must be switched off when not in use, heating should be set to the agreed temperature level and all thermostats checked to see if they are in working order and staff and young people are encouraged to conserve water supplies. Topics about the environment and conservation should be encouraged during activities and leisure time in the home.

The Company takes care in purchasing fuel-efficient and low emission vehicles, which also are better able to be recycled at the end of their useful life.

Unnecessary journeys will be discouraged. Care will be taken in planning journeys so that wherever possible more than one task can be accomplished during the journey, for example, transporting young people to school and doing the shopping. Young people will be encouraged to walk to activities if practicable, for the exercise health benefits and to use public transport where available, and if appropriate.

We will ensure that the homes and schools are run in as an environmentally friendly way as possible, commensurate with the needs of vulnerable young people enjoying a normal residential/family life-style.

The achievement of our Environmental objectives will be monitored through:

- Energy Usage (Gas, Electric, Oil, Water)
- Vehicle Fleet Monitoring
- Recycling Opportunities
- Communication & Awareness

### Revision History

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Date last updated: July 2020

Date of next review: July 2021

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