



*Creating Safe Connections &  
Environments that Promote  
Development*

## **Environment Impact & Ethics Action Plan**

### Short, medium and long-term goals

The looming threat of climate change, environmental degradation and dwindling natural resources impacts us all. As a company, REACH recognises it's responsibility to safeguard not only this generation of young people, but also future generations to come. This recognition is underpinned by an understanding that systems cannot be viewed in isolation; societies and the environment are inherently linked. In short, REACH must couple environmental ambitions with an emphasis on promoting sustainable, just social systems.

To enact positive change at REACH's level of influence, this report outlines a series of goals it hopes to achieve across 3 separate time scales. These will focus on 3 different areas of the business; food, transport and building operations. A miscellaneous category will be offered when this chosen topic does not fit into one of these aforementioned areas. To ensure this isn't purely lip service, REACH will organise the results to be routinely interrogated by a panel of staff members (independent from the Leadership Team). Finally, the document will be considered as 'live'. As a result, there will be no finish line, rather, goals will be consistently reviewed and updated as REACH aims to lead the charge in the greening of alternative education provision.

These goals are subject to editing and ratification via the Initial Environment & Ethics Panel.

## SHORT TERM

*3 months or less*

### Food

Begin shift to stocking bases with locally produced food, with emphasis on buying from small scale, ethically-sound producers

Have a food waste disposal system in place at each base, and have rough approximations of quantity of food waste per week

### Transport

Encourage staff to take up electric car options using the mileage payments as a means of funding it

Encourage any reduction of car use when possible

Recycling options available for staff in their cars

### Building Operations

Buy fully recycled paper for each base

Ensure current building usage is as efficient as possible

## MEDIUM TERM

*1 year or less*

### Food

Source and development of allotment patch and begin stocking bases with food grown from this space

Transition all food sourcing (where possible) to organic, Fairtrade and high animal welfare production methods

Consider ways to reduce meat/fish consumption in daily operations (particular emphasis on processed meat)

## Transport

Set up a pot to financially support staff's transition to electric cars

## Building Operations

Evaluate and implement eco-friendly chemical use

'Smarting' the infrastructure of buildings to steadily increase the efficiency in which the company operates (e.g. paint radiators black)

Transition to greener energy company

Recycled hand towels and toilet rolls to be used exclusively across all sites

## Miscellaneous

Have an independent environmental impact assessment undertaken to evaluate and quantify REACH's impact on the environment

Undertake a Green REACH Week which among other things will offset REACH's weekly carbon footprint via a tree planting scheme

Establish and publish an Environmental Policy Statement with time-sensitive goals

Develop and share wider environmental policies

## LONG TERM

*Up to 5 years*

## Food

Eliminate food waste from the operations of our organisation

## Transport

Consider and implement changes in service delivery, transitioning away from reliance on car use

Reduction in annual mileage of service delivery

## Building Operations

Be a paperless organisation

Upgrade base heating systems with emphasis on efficiency and cleaner methods of energy production

Insulate window/doors of bases to improve efficiency of buildings – replacements may be necessary

Introduce solar panels to bases (if possible)

## Miscellaneous

Ensure that each new project has an associated Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken prior to it's launch, and if deemed too damaging the project does not go ahead