**HILD BEDE SRC SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

1. **Introduction**
   1. The SRC is committed to becoming more environmentally responsible and taking measures to improve the environmental impact of the Hild Bede community.
   2. The sustainability policy is designed to increase awareness of environmental issues around college and offer pathways for solving them.
   3. The environment officer will be responsible for ensuring the sustainability policy is followed.
2. **Definitions:**
   1. ‘Sustainable practices’ – Practices which do not deplete the planet’s natural resources and respect the surrounding environment.
   2. ‘Environmental Responsibility’ – The duty of the SRC to protect the environment.
   3. ‘Positive environmental impact’ – Actions which reduce carbon emissions, promote biodiversity and generally enrich our environment.
3. **Aims:**
   1. Develop more sustainable practices within college.
   2. Provide information to SRC members about ways to be more sustainable.
   3. Ensure events and activities have positive environmental impacts.
   4. Ensure Clubs and Societies take steps to reduce their carbon footprint.
4. **Developing Sustainable Practices:**
   1. Purchasing:
      1. All SRC purchases should be carbon neutral or as environmentally friendly as possible. Avoid purchasing single-use plastics and non-biodegradable products.
   2. Stash:
      1. Clothing should come from sustainable outlets which promote low-carbon practices. See section 8 for helpful links.
      2. Consider running clothing exchanges, potentially with other colleges to make clothing more accessible and affordable.
   3. Working with College:
      1. The SRC should encourage college to adopt greener practices. This includes providing compost and food waste facilities, installing energy efficient lightbulbs, installing insulation and providing recycling.
   4. The Vern
      1. The SRC advocates that the Vern should use reusable hard plastic or glass cups for all drinks. If this is not possible then biodegradable single-use cups should be purchased.
5. **Providing Information**
   1. Promote low-footprint diets by offering recipes and information on affordable ways to eat a plant-based diet.
   2. Encourage SRC members to walk, cycle or take public transport and offer information to assist with this.
   3. Promote zero-waste lifestyles by encouraging sustainable fashion and providing information on environmentally friendly outlets.
   4. Promote sustainable energy and water usage. This includes signs about turning lights off and timers in bathrooms to help save water.
6. **Events and Activities**
   1. Re-use and recycle materials where possible.
   2. Avoid using single-use plastics especially cups. Purchase biodegradable alternatives.
   3. Consider using plant-based food options where possible and ensure food suppliers source products from sustainable places (e.g. meat should be locally sourced and not battery-farmed).
   4. Reduce waste where possible by ensuring food waste and recycling facilities are visible and that decorations are recyclable or reusable
   5. Events committees such as Ball Com should consider having a member responsible for sustainable practices or make sure all decisions taken keep ecological impact in mind.
7. **Clubs and Societies**
   1. SRC Clubs and Societies should take steps to reduce their own environmental impacts by:
      1. Considering electing an environment officer if needed.
      2. Ensure stash comes from sustainable outlets and offer exchanges so stash can be reused across years.
      3. Reduce waste where possible especially from socials
      4. Investigate ways to improve sustainability by using the resources below!
8. **Helpful Resources**
   1. UN Sustainable Living tips: <https://www.unep.org/resources/toolkits-manuals-and-guides/sustainable-lifestyles-options-and-opportunities?_ga=2.226871960.428641343.1654670910-698941101.1654670910>
   2. UN Sustainable lifestyles in the workplace: <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27204/SustLifestyles_Work.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
   3. Action guide for sustainable living: <https://anatomyofaction.org>
   4. Ethical Revolution (useful advice on sustainable companies and consumption): <https://ethicalrevolution.co.uk>
   5. Sustainable Development Goals: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>
   6. The SRC uses Redbird for Stash who are climate conscious: <https://www.redbirdsupplyuk.com>
   7. WWF Carbon Footprint Calculator: <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

Signed by Cosmo van Steenis;

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