

## QUEEN MARY'S COLLEGE

# CASE STUDY

Queen Mary's College's carbon reduction journey with Climate Essentials, funded by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council



### Queen Mary's College

Queen Mary's College (QMC) is a sixth form college teaching students aged 16 to 19. Situated on a large, leafy campus in Basingstoke, QMC welcomes over 2000 students from the surrounding area to pursue their education.

As a large institution, QMC hopes to lead the way in promoting and achieving green credentials. In March 2023 the school joined the Climate Essentials programme, with funding from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, with the goal of establishing and understanding a baseline carbon footprint and introducing operational and strategic targets for improvement.

### Carbon Reduction Journey

Throughout the programme, the team at QMC has had regular support sessions with Climate Essentials, focusing on data collection and potential reduction strategies.

**“It has been an invaluable tool to start our journey to documenting our current footprint in order to consider realistic but challenging goals to impact positively on sustainability.”**

**Caroline Watson, Assistant Principal at QMC**

### Carbon Reduction Suggestions

Engaging the broader school community poses a significant challenge for QMC as a large organisation. Climate Essentials' recommendations have emphasised reducing Scope 3 emissions from purchased goods and services by engaging with their supply chain and opting to purchase from ethical suppliers.

Additionally, the college should explore initiatives to reduce employee commuting emissions....

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## Suggestions cont..

such as encouraging public transport use, carpooling and advocating for slow travel. As some buildings in the school rely on gas heating, electrifying heating where possible would reduce QMC's emissions by up to 70 percent. Options such as installing efficient boilers and insulating wall cavities offer potential cost savings in heating.



## Implementation

Raising awareness, promoting themes and offering training for staff and students has been key to Queen Mary's College's sustainability efforts.

A major focus has been on the application of the "reduce, reuse and recycle" principle across the school, involving various departments and stakeholders: Estates, Finance, IT and Resources.

The college launched an online prospectus in 2023, marking another positive move towards sustainability.

## Success

The college is developing a robust sustainability plan outlining both short-term and long-term goals and actions. One goal already embraced by the staff is to reduce the volume of photocopying across the college. Although seemingly modest, the school is excited and ambitious about what they can achieve.

Queen Mary's College has demonstrated proactive commitment to sustainability through active and motivated engagement in the Climate Essentials programme. By collaborating with and receiving support from Climate Essentials team, the school and its staff has significantly enhanced their comprehension of carbon footprint management and they have made notable progress in reducing emissions and minimising environmental impact.

**Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and Climate Essentials thank Queen Mary's College for working together as part of this programme and its ongoing commitment to reducing its environmental impact.**