

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Policy

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Environment Policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy

1.0 Introduction

Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship is a term that has many and varying definitions.

At t2 group, we consider the well-known Native American proverb as a statement of mission which can be universally understood: "Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children".

Business operational activities can potentially impact the environment – from the buildings we work in, the cars we drive, the resources we purchase and the utilities we receive.

2.0 Policy Statement

t2 group acknowledges that we are global citizens and that we have a corporate and individual responsibility to consider the impact we make on the environment and seeks to protect species, habitats and resources within the broader landscape.

3.0 Aims and Objectives

t2 group aims to improve our sustainable development performance and that of our clients by implementing practices where possible that will promote economic, security, social improvement and environmental stewardship and we will strive for continuous improvement of performance in these areas.

Reviewed By: HR | **Date:** Sept 2023

Next Review: HR | **Date:** Sept 2024

Version 4



t2 group believes in promoting global citizenship and sustainability amongst employees and learners, internally and externally, to reduce the environmental impacts of all our activities and to help our clients and partners to do the same.

t2 group seeks to maximise our employees' access to the skills and knowledge required to play a full part in society, considering their impact and the impact of others on biodiversity and sustainable resources in relation to the way we all live, the purchasing decisions we all make and the way we all dispose of waste etc.

t2 group aims to improve the environmental impact by efficiently and effectively using energy, water and other natural resources with care. We aim to minimise waste and reuse or recycle it where possible and sustainably dispose of what is left. We maximise the efficient use of energy and materials.

t2 group aims to identify new opportunities to conserve resources, to develop sustainable procurement procedures within all elements of our support chain and to support projects that will conserve and where possible, enhance sustainability.

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship will be referred to hereafter as ESDGC.

For t2 group ESDGC is about:

- The links between society, economy and the environment and between our own lives and those of people throughout the world.
- The needs and rights of present and future generations.
- The relationships between power, resources and human rights.
- The local and global consequences of our actions as individuals.
- The things we need to do as well as teach.

For our Learners ESDGC is about:

- Encouraging people to care for themselves, others and the environment.
- Issues they have a right to know about the future.
- Developing mindsets to recognise the complexities between the interrelatedness of single actions and making informed decisions.

Reviewed By: HR | **Date:** Sept 2023

Next Review: HR | **Date:** Sept 2024

Version 4



Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is about:

Enabling everyone to develop the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions about the way we do things individually and collectively, both locally and globally, that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future.

Education for Global Citizenship (GC) is about:

Enabling people to understand the global forces that shape their lives and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values that will equip them to participate in decision-making, both locally and globally, which promotes a more equitable and sustainable world.

ESDGC should not be viewed as a new or additional subject. It is a responsibility that everyone in every walk of life shares. It is a culture that needs to be embedded into everything we do both in our professional and personal lives. It is a set of moral guidelines that shows us the links between ourselves and the local and global environments surrounding us and that for our environment to survive for the generations ahead, that attitudes, behaviour and values of the world's current inhabitants need to be changed.

By proactively linking ESDGC within learning habits we can drastically look to enhance and enrich the current outlook.

The success of t2 group's ESDGC policy is dependent upon the buy-in of all employees but also everyone it includes and surrounds.

4.0 Implementation of our ESDGC Policy

We recognise that in order to educate our staff, learners and associates in sustainable and global issues, we need to plan for and embed ESDGC into our culture and learning activities and all aspects of t2 group, as well as demonstrating that we practice what we preach.

Reviewed By: HR | **Date:** Sept 2023

Next Review: HR | **Date:** Sept 2024

Version 4



We aim, therefore, to instil The Seven R's:

- Respect
- Rethink
- Refuse
- Reduce
- Re-use
- Recycle
- Restore

These will underline our work in the following ways:

1. The Curriculum:

We will address the explicit references to sustainable development and global citizenship where they exist within the Welsh Government/SFA Framework.

2. Environment and Community Links:

Our environment will be cared for through responsible stewardship. We will actively seek partnership working through a wide range of partners.

3. Involving all Stakeholders:

Children and adults (Personal Development Managers, parents, LEA, members of the community, local councillors, companies), alike will participate in evaluative and management processes where appropriate.

4. Global and Community Links will be Nurtured and Valued:

We aim to make our company the centre of its community, drawing upon the expertise within it whenever possible. We will seek to make links with other organisations in this and other countries. We will explore the concept of interdependence by learners and staff sharing their views about issues that they have in common.

5. Resources:

We recognise the importance of having high-quality resources that motivate and support learning. Resources will be developed which takes into account environmental impact and fair trade. All resources will be evaluated to ensure they present a balanced, non-stereotypical view of the world. Other resources will be shared through effective networking.

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Next Review: HR | **Date:** Sept 2024

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The key concepts of ESDGC which t2 group will look to address are:

- Interdependence
- Citizenship and stewardship
- Needs and rights
- Diversity
- Sustainable change
- Quality of life
- Uncertainty and precaution
- Values and perceptions and conflict resolution

5.0 Leadership and Co-ordination

A member of t2 group management will attend ESDGC courses where appropriate and feedback any news and issues. Further internal training will also be developed and disseminated annually.

6.0 Equal Opportunities

All work on ESDGC supports t2 group's equality and diversity practices and policies.

7.0 Health and Safety

We adhere to the requirements and recommendations of the Welsh Government/ESFA's Health and Safety Policy.

8.0 Amendments and Alterations

The company reserves the right to amend this policy at any time. You should contact the HR department or your Line Manager if you have any queries.

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