



Plan of front of College showing position of Solar Panels

Environmental Policy

General

Purley Language College and Hazel Residence are environmentally-conscious establishments that acknowledge the reality of climate change and other types of environmental damage and the need for urgent action. We therefore actively seek to reduce our impact on the environment in every way possible.

Purley Language College is a long-established and trusted language school attracting students of all ages from across the globe to travel to the UK to study in its South London premises and stay with nearby host families or in Hazel Residence 2 doors away.

Limitations

As many of the College's clients live in far-away countries, it is inevitable that these clients will most likely elect to travel by air. It is at present difficult to envisage how this could be avoided.

At present the College has an inclusive daily dropoff/pickup service usually by car from/to host families for all students under the age of 18. This end-to-end service ensures the safety

of students who are unfamiliar with the local area. The College at present can see no viable alternative.

The College is housed in a building constructed in 1899 with solid walls and a mixture of double, secondary and single glazing. It is therefore relatively inefficient by modern standards and is likely to remain so even with adjustments such as better insulation and glazing.

The Residence is housed in a building constructed around 1934. It underwent complete renovation, improvement and extension in 2014 and 2015 during which improving the building's energy efficiency was a major factor. The energy efficiency of the building was rated just below C on the A to G scale in December 2015 with no potential for further improvement. The assessment however did not acknowledge the installation of roof insulation, a heat recovery system and solar panels; if it had done so the overall rating would have been better.

Energy conservation

> Current situation

1. Solar photovoltaic panels on College roof (since 2010)
2. Solar photovoltaic panels on Residence roof with output of 4.0kW (since 2015)
3. Heat recovery system in Residence (since 2015)
4. Insulation in Residence and College (since 2015 & 2010)
5. Thermostatic valves on all radiators
6. No air conditioning anywhere
7. Automatic lights in bathrooms/toilets in College and Residence
8. LED lighting throughout residence; mostly fluorescent lighting in College
9. Computer screens power off automatically after 30 minutes
10. Efficient condensing boilers in both College and Residence (since 2013 & 2015 respectively)

> Future plans

1. Remove and replace any remaining halogen spotlights in College with LED (by January 2020)

Waste, Recycling and Reuse

1. Purley College recycles almost all paper and cardboard (since 2006 or before).
2. Hazel Residence currently recycles almost all plastics and paper/cardboard under the local council scheme
3. Empty printer ink cartridges are gathered and shipped for recycling as part of HP's "Planet Partners" recycling programme
4. Purley College provides free filtered drinking water and reusable cups (since 2010 approx) for all students and staff
5. Purley College is currently trialling different reusable coffee cups that can be used in local coffee shops (since September 2018)

> Future plans/areas for improvement

1. Investigate the recycling possibilities for Canon photocopier consumables
2. Acquire more reusable cups for use at social events off site eg discos
3. Routinely buy recyclable cardboard plates rather than polystyrene alternatives
4. Consider whether there are viable recyclable alternatives to plastic cutlery
5. Ensure all paper is from sustainable sources
6. Explore alternatives to single use plastics eg soap and shampoo sachets/wrappers used in the Residence

Transport

1. Purley College strongly favours the use of public transport. Approximately 95 per cent of all excursions and trips organised by Purley College are by train, local bus, tram or underground.
2. Purley College has 1 hybrid car, 1 diesel car and 1 diesel minibus. The hybrid car is by far the most-used of the three.

> Future plans

1. Purley College is developing incentives for students to use trains and coaches rather than planes to come to the UK. Purley College aims to have these incentives ready for January 2020.
2. Purley College is developing a carbon offset scheme for students who use air travel and aims to complete this by January 2020.
3. Replace College's diesel vehicles with hybrid or electric vehicles when they become beyond economical repair.

Training & Education

> Current Situation

1. A process of consultation has begun with the Academic Management Team on how the environment and climate change in particular can form part of the curriculum for students of all ages and levels.
2. Purley College acknowledges its 'soft power' potential in terms of highlighting the importance of taking action on the environment after students return to their own country.
3. Our environmental impact is a recurrent theme in informal and formal staff meetings

> Future plans

1. The College will include information on recycling and reuse (notably of plastic water bottles) in the welcome talk and induction for all students by September 2019.
2. The College will include at least 45 minutes of input time on environmental issues on all courses by September 2019.
3. Formalise the discussion of measures to reduce our environmental impact among the teaching team as a regular agenda item at weekly meetings by September 2019.

Appliances & Equipment

> Current Situation

1. The College and Residence have a consultation procedure on the acquisition of new appliances & equipment in favour of durability and quality. This involves consultation with colleagues and review of published information and opinions from other users.
2. The College refurbishes older desktop computers wherever possible rather than buying new.

> Future plans

1. Routinely scrutinise the environmental record of manufacturers and the carbon footprint of all products before acquiring

Photocopying & Printing

> Current Situation

1. The College and Residence have secure cloud-based environments for creating, storing and sharing documents internally, making it unnecessary to print in most situations (Since 2013)
2. The College uses the Google Classroom virtual learning environment for setting and receiving homework tasks and for sharing other relevant information and materials such as links to relevant online resources such as TED talks
3. The College uses secure online forms wherever possible (since 2013) rather than paper versions.
4. The College does not have a printed brochure but sends a variety of documents typically as PDFs
5. Guidance on printing and photocopying for teachers is contained in the Teachers' Handbook

> Future plans

1. Provide further training around alternatives to printing for both admin and teaching staff by September 2019
2. Ensure that all copy paper used is from fully sustainable sources by January 2020

Green energy suppliers

> Current Situation

1. College and Residence produce and sell electricity from its solar panels; but we use much more energy than we produce
2. College and Residence use energy suppliers that have commitments to reducing their carbon footprint

> Future plans

1. Switch to a greener energy supplier by April 2020 if feasible

Buildings

> Current Situation

1. There are no major works planned but a policy of regular maintenance and repair is in place with a full time handyman/caretaker in post
2. We source the highest quality and durable materials from known suppliers and manufacturers

3. We ensure all waste is disposed of responsibly, separating and recycling wherever possible.
4. Building waste was removed by licenced waste removal contractors during major building works at both College and Residence.

> Future plans

1. Routinely scrutinise the environmental record of manufacturers and the carbon footprint of all products before acquiring by September 2019.
2. Provide relevant environmental training for handyman/caretaker by June 2020.

Chemicals

> Current Situation

1. The College and Residence currently use use a range of off the shelf cleaning products

> Future Plans

1. Assess the viability of switching to eco-friendly brands in consultation with relevant personnel by January 2020

Drafted by Jan Fossgard, 1 June 2019