

Green Procurement

Green Procurement considers the environmental aspects, potential impacts and costs, associated with the life cycle assessment of goods and services being acquired. It focuses on the practice of procuring products and services that are less harmful to the environment (land, air and water). Green products purchased should be those that are made with less harmful materials or which when produced or used or consumed would have a minimal impact on the environment. This includes buying local and reducing your carbon footprint.

These are some of the main categories your school could look at with regards to procurement.

- Paper
- Cleaning products
- Office equipment
- Lighting
- Transport
- Furniture
- Electricity
- Food and catering services
- Gardening products

Please note: While at the moment a Green Procurement Policy is advised there will be a requirement to develop a green procurement policy from January 2013 for all Eco-Schools.

An example of a Green Procurement Policy statement...

“We will ensure that we purchase all products and services that consider environmental aspects, potential impacts and costs, associated with their life cycle. Our practice of procuring products and services will ensure that they are less harmful to the environment (land, air and water), that are made with less harmful materials which when produced, used or consumed. This will include buying local, buying recycled and recyclable, using less chemicals and reducing the schools carbon footprint associated with products and services.”

Download the [Green Procurement Policy document](#) with information for each topic. Use this to help you with your environmental review and in creating a Green Procurement Policy statement.

For detailed information, the European Commission have developed a Green Public Procurement instrument to support the EU's efforts to become a more resource-efficient economy, very detailed information can be found here.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/eu_gpp_criteria_en.htm