



# Environmental Policy and Carbon Reduction Action Plan

## The Odyssey Hub Ltd

### 1. Policy Statement

Odyssey Hub recognises the importance of addressing climate change and reducing environmental impact in line with Suffolk County Council's Climate Change Commercial Ask and its declaration of a climate emergency.

As a small, community-based alternative provision provider, Odyssey Hub has a low operational footprint. Nevertheless, we are committed to understanding, minimising, and responsibly managing our environmental impact in a way that is proportionate, realistic, and compatible with our safeguarding responsibilities.

Environmental considerations are embedded into our operational planning, delivery model, and growth strategy.

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### 2. Scope and Context

Odyssey Hub:

- Delivers sessions primarily in external community venues over which we do not have direct control of building infrastructure or utilities
- Uses minimal IT equipment and digital infrastructure
- Has no owned premises or vehicle fleet

As a result, our most significant environmental impacts relate to:

- Travel and mileage
  - Consumable materials (paper, resources, game materials)
  - Indirect energy use within shared venues
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### 3. Key Environmental Principles

Odyssey Hub commits to:

- Taking a local-first approach to service delivery



- Reducing unnecessary travel and associated emissions
- Using materials responsibly and minimising waste
- Making environmentally responsible choices where these do not conflict with safeguarding, accessibility, or learner wellbeing
- Improving environmental awareness as the organisation grows

Safeguarding duties and learner safety will always take precedence over environmental considerations where the two come into conflict.

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#### 4. Environmental Action Plan (Implementation Phase – Year 1)

In addition to operational actions, Odyssey Hub recognises that environmental responsibility can also be reflected indirectly through learning, narrative, and values-led engagement, where appropriate.

Environmental and social themes may occasionally be explored within narrative gameplay or creative sessions as part of wider world-building, ethical decision-making, or community-focused storylines. Where this occurs, such themes are:

- Introduced organically and proportionately, not as formal instruction
- Matched to the learner's age, interests, and emotional readiness
- Used to encourage reflection on responsibility, cooperation, stewardship, and consequence
- Never delivered in a prescriptive or political manner

These narrative elements are intended to support critical thinking and values development, rather than to deliver environmental education as a standalone outcome.

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#### 4.2 Materials and Resources

##### Actions:

- Use **recycled paper** for all printed materials (e.g. character sheets)
  - Minimise printing by reusing materials where appropriate
  - Use durable game resources (e.g. dice and figurines) intended for long-term reuse
  - Avoid single-use materials where possible
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### 4.3 Energy Use in Venues

Odyssey Hub does not control energy systems in external venues. However, staff will:

#### Actions:

- Use lighting and heating responsibly
  - Avoid unnecessary heating or lighting during sessions
  - Close windows and doors appropriately when heating is in use
  - Act in line with venue guidance on energy efficiency
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### 4.4 Procurement and Consumption

#### Actions:

- Prioritise local suppliers where possible
  - Choose products with lower environmental impact when available and affordable
  - Avoid unnecessary shipping or long-distance sourcing of consumables
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### 4.5 Digital Practices

#### Actions:

- Maintain minimal use of IT equipment
  - Use digital tools proportionately and avoid unnecessary data storage
  - Review digital practices annually as the organisation scales
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## 5. Measurement and Future Targets

During the first year of operation, Odyssey Hub will:

- Identify key sources of environmental impact
- Begin simple tracking of travel patterns and resource use
- Review opportunities for further reduction as delivery expands

Once a baseline understanding has been established, Odyssey Hub will:

- Set appropriate and proportionate environmental improvement goals
- Update this Action Plan with specific targets and timelines



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## 6. Governance and Responsibility

Responsibility for this policy and action plan sits with the Director of Odyssey Hub.

Progress is reviewed annually and adjustments are made in response to:

- Organisational growth
- Changes in delivery model
- Updated Local Authority or national guidance

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## 7. Review and Continuous Improvement

This policy and action plan will be reviewed annually or sooner if:

- Significant operational changes occur
- New environmental guidance is issued
- Suffolk County Council updates its Climate Change Commercial Ask

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**Organisation:** The Odyssey Hub

**Contact:** info@odysseyhub.co.uk | 01473 875127

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