



## **Environmental and Sustainability Policy Statement of JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research**

### **Preamble:**

The JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER) acknowledges that environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility that extends to all individuals and collective entities within its community. Co-development and co-ownership with students are fundamental to our success. It is essential to ensure that all actions taken in addressing specific environmental challenges, such as greenhouse gas emissions, are carefully considered to avoid any undesirable consequences in other areas. The Policy Statement will be subject to an annual review, receiving reports from its constituent colleges chaired by the Principal, and supplemented by additional annual reports on key environmental issues and supporting policies. JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will actively consider and adopt external commitments, pledges, and accreditation schemes to enhance and monitor its sustainability efforts.

### **Vision:**

With a vision to contribute significantly to a more sustainable future, locally and globally, through its education, research, and engagement efforts, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research aims to make a positive impact on the environment and society at large.

### **Awareness and Governance:**

Sustainability concerns will be explicitly acknowledged and incorporated into all levels of management and operation within JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research. It is committed to raising performance in three priority academic themes: "sustainability and net zero," "population health," and "equity and inclusion." JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research aims to minimize its environmental impact by efficiently using resources and adhering to all relevant legislation and regulations. Additionally, it seeks to promote awareness of sustainability issues within JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research community and prioritize the well-being of staff and students. Sustainability principles will be embedded in the design and operation of all activities, and will actively engage with the wider community to promote sustainability and contribute to building a more sustainable society.

**Net Zero:**

The JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research commits to achieving Net Zero carbon emissions no later than 2045 and will develop and implement plans to achieve this target as early as feasible. Emissions will be reduced to the maximum extent possible, and any offsetting arrangements will be carefully evaluated for their effectiveness, long-term security, and overall impact on biodiversity and sustainable development. JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will prioritize adaptability to the changing climate and building resilience in all future plans.

**Education:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will expand and integrate education for sustainability into the curriculum, ensuring that all students are empowered with the knowledge and skills to contribute to a sustainable future.

**Research:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will leverage its research strengths to address global challenges, with a focus on health and well-being, sustainability, and the just transition. Research will be aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and efforts will be made to ensure more sustainable research practices, including reducing energy, water, and raw material consumption.

**Campus:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research is committed to developing and maintaining sustainable campuses, with a particular emphasis on energy and water efficiency, biodiversity, waste management, and life cycle impacts. A holistic approach will be adopted, considering "cradle to cradle" circular economy principles whenever possible, and legal obligations and policy targets will guide decision-making. Collaborative efforts with partners will be pursued to influence and deliver positive changes in student accommodations managed by external entities.

**Transport:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will develop and implement an integrated green travel policy that promotes and supports active travel and environmentally friendly transportation methods. Digital solutions will also be explored to reduce the need for staff and students to travel.

**Procurement:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will adopt clear and effective sustainable procurement policies that promote the circular economy and consider all stages of the supply chain and product life cycle. Sustainable food and Fair Trade policies will be given due importance.

**Investment and Finance:**

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will avoid investing in companies whose activities conflict with its publicly espoused values and will consider social, environmental, sustainability, and governance issues when making financial decisions.

**Integration:**

Sustainability will be a collective responsibility of all staff and students at JSS AHER, not limited to specific officers, units, or committees. New and sustainable ways of working will be explored and adopted to reduce the JSS AHER's demand on natural resources, promote efficient resource utilization, and enhance biodiversity on campus and beyond.

The JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research will continue to develop and refine detailed policies in various areas, including Net Zero, Travel, Procurement, Ethical Investment, Waste, Heating and Cooling, Fair Trade, Sustainable Food, Learning & Teaching, and Biodiversity. Each policy area will have an assigned responsible group overseeing its implementation.

**Responsibilities:**

The Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Principals of constituent colleges, and Heads of departments hold delegated authority and are responsible for all aspects of the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Statement. Feedback from employees and stakeholders will be sought to identify areas for improvement and the Policy will be reviewed and revised accordingly .

Date of Implementation: 01.06.2016

Date of Last Revision: 01.06.2023

Date for Next Revision: 01.06.2026



  
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