

## About YCC's Sustainability Action Plan:

YCC is a registered charity that seeks to improve lives and inspire change. Whilst YCC's charitable focus is not on the environment, we fully understand that sustainability is an important topic on the agenda of young people and their families. Therefore, it is equally important to us as we look towards our long-term goals.

YCC is going to be around a long time, and our projects, buildings and services need to be 'future proof' to serve the children and young people for generations to come.

We are YCC. We Are:

- Driven by facts
- Acting with knowledge
- Leading through change

## Benefits of Sustainability in the Third Sector

Financial

Health & Wellbeing

Environmental

Educational

1. **Financial:** By reducing the use of materials and replacing old systems with newer ones, we can reduce expenditure, leaving more capital to make positive change in our communities.
2. **Health and wellbeing:** Cleaner spaces and healthier lifestyles for our staff, service users, volunteers and stakeholders offer a priceless benefit to all.
3. **Environmental:** Small changes within our buildings and for our service users will develop into communities and encourage a ripple effect of positive, impactful results.
4. **Educational:** This includes L&D opportunities for employees, who can then teach and empower children, young people, and families to make sustainable choices and lead healthier lives.

# The 7 Pillars of YCC's Sustainability Pledge



## **Examples:**

### **Reduce:**

- Going paperless as much as possible
- Using less energy/better energy efficient equipment
- Adapting a 'lights off' policy
- Encouraging hybrid working to reduce emissions caused by travelling to work
- Supporting the uptake of sustainable transport via salary sacrifice
- Healthy eating courses for service users (less meat, more vitamins)

### **Recycle:**

- Working with local councils to recycle wherever possible
- Promoting the benefits of recycling correctly via our community anchors

### **Reuse:**

- YCC charity shop (short term)
- Working with pupils at the college and beyond to learn about upcycling furniture
- Continuing to run collections for disadvantaged communities such as winter coats
- Running exchange corners for service users e.g., book swaps and uniform exchange
- Solar energy usage across buildings.

**Replace:**

- Committing to sustainable choices where possible whenever a new item is required, or a new project is started, e.g., energy efficient light bulbs
- Removing single use plastics from all buildings

**Reject:**

- Advocating our sustainable messages by refusing unsustainable actions such as unnecessary packaging, purchases from carbon negative providers, etc.
- Ensuring that funding is sourced in line with our sustainability policy

**Educate:**

- Using research, pass on learnings to all stakeholders, including local communities, employees, service users and other third section organisation, to grow the movement in the local areas and beyond
- Including sustainability in the college teaching curriculum

**Engage:**

- Involving service users, including gardening clubs, healthy eating courses, employee training and development opportunities, and involvement with other organisations to make change together, sharing our learnings
- Establishing a Sustainability Forum to lead the action plan as a collective
- Involving Children and Young people so that they can directly benefit and continue the sustainable movement into adulthood
- Working largely with the colleges
- Working with established stakeholders such as Climate Change Commission and Kirklees Council

**Example Timeline:**

	<b>Short Term – Quick Changes in 2022</b>	<b>Medium Term – 2023 - 2025</b>	<b>Long Term – 2025 - 2030</b>
<b>Reduce</b>	Implement a 'lights off' policy  Commence a paper free policy across all YCC buildings  Introduce cycle to work salary sacrifice  College and Pass It On shop to consider collaboration  Water saving initiatives to reduce water pressure/usage across buildings (toilets in particular)	Consider more energy efficient incentives.  Continuation of reducing resources purchased/used within YCC buildings  Work on food waste at the college	Complete the paper free initiative across all departments  Remove the use of single-use plastic from all buildings.

<p><b>Recycle</b></p>	<p>Create a strict recycling policy</p> <p>Enhancing recycling facilities at all sites and removing all smaller, individual waste bins</p>	<p>Work with councils to improve recycling opportunities including glass</p>	<p>Use social media and Safety Rangers to educate on recycling correctly</p>
<p><b>Reuse</b></p>	<p>Upcycling work with Pass It On. Donations from Pass It On to Service Users.</p> <p>Compost bin for use in BJH garden space</p> <p>Advocate sustainable regifting, such as book corners, and winter warmers for refugees</p>	<p>Continuation and expansion of short-term ideas</p>	<p>Consider a greater use of renewable energy</p>
<p><b>Replace</b></p>	<p>Energy efficient bulbs across YCC</p>	<p>New heating/cooling system in place</p> <p>Replace water coolers in all buildings with a more sustainable alternative</p> <p>Replace the windows at Brian Jackson House</p>	<p>Growing food for the college at the allotment</p>
<p><b>Reject</b></p>	<p>Say no to single-use plastic, unsustainable packaging, unnecessary printing, and other unsustainable actions</p>	<p>Continue to 'say no' - encouraging sustainable solutions instead.</p> <p>Consolidating deliveries any buy local schemes.</p>	<p>Establish a stricter sustainability policy that encompasses YCC's findings so far.</p>
<p><b>Educate</b></p>	<p>College working on initiatives such as litter picking, canal cleaning and tree planting (also part of 'engage')</p> <p>Embed sustainability further into the college curriculum</p> <p>Support and embed behavioural change</p>	<p>Via community anchors and social media, teach communities about the financial and health and wellbeing benefits of sustainability</p> <p>Develop sustainability into existing YCC services such as Safety</p>	<p>Employee development opportunities for staff such as sustainable marketing and administration</p> <p>Sustainability training for YCC employees</p> <p>Sharing sustainable ideas/methods to stakeholders</p>

	<p>and in turn reduce the resistance to change.</p> <p>Adding sustainability into the newsletter.</p>	<p>Rangers and college education.</p>	
<p><b>Engage</b></p>	<p>Establish an active Sustainability Forum.</p> <p>Measure the current footprint of YCC and set targets based on findings (paper use, archive boxes, water, gas &amp; electric bills, costs of confidential waste disposal).</p> <p>Infographic showcasing some baseline measurements.</p> <p>Soda stream and other staff incentives to reduce single use waste.</p> <p>Outline our findings and intentions to stakeholders.</p> <p>Working with volunteers to start creating a bio-diverse garden</p> <p>A YCC sustainability champion</p> <p>YCC newsletter to regularly talk about sustainability.</p>	<p>Build sustainability into new and existing services that can further engage service users and communities</p> <p>Establish connections with sustainable partners</p> <p>Involve the sustainability forum when developing new projects to ensure they are ‘future proof’</p> <p>Measure the success of the first 12 months of the sustainability action plan – reporting back to stakeholders</p> <p>Continue to support and embed behavioural change and reduce resistance to change.</p>	<p>Blend sustainability work across different services to interlock services received by service users and better engage community</p> <p>Seek to gain a sustainability accreditation</p>