

# **Birkenhead Sixth Form College**

## **Fairtrade Policy**

### **Background**

The Fairtrade Foundation exists to ensure a better deal for marginalised and disadvantaged developing world producers. The Foundation awards a consumer label, the FAIRTRADE Mark, to products, which meet internationally standards of fair trade.

Fairtrade is about fair prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and better terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. Fairtrade gives power back both to producers and consumers. Producers achieve fair wages, improved working conditions and help and assistance with the development of products and marketing. Consumers are given the choice to make a difference by buying Fairtrade products whenever possible.

College Fairtrade Status will provide the opportunity for the College to promote its commitment to the principles of equality and diversity for everyone. Supplying Fairtrade products will also demonstrate the College is committed to sustainable development and corporate social responsibility.

### **Achieving Fairtrade Status**

To achieve Fairtrade status the College will need to attain the five minimum goals set by the Fairtrade Foundation:

1. The College and Student Council in partnership will develop a Fairtrade Policy (this document).
2. The College will establish a Fairtrade Steering Group to oversee the implementation of the Policy. This group will meet at least once per term to monitor and improve the support for Fairtrade throughout the College. It will be responsible for organising the promotional events such as Fairtrade Fortnight and for producing an annual report on the implementation of the Policy.
3. The College will sell as many Fairtrade products as is feasible in the refectory, shop and Learning Curve. Where it is not currently feasible (for reasons of price, product availability, contractual obligations or space) to sell Fairtrade goods the College and Student Council is committed to begin selling Fairtrade as soon as it becomes feasible.
4. The College will serve Fairtrade foods (e.g. tea and coffee) at all internal meetings and hospitality events (e.g. Governor meetings, INSET days) with a commitment to increasing the use of Fairtrade products as it becomes possible to do so.
5. The College and Students Council will promote the sale of Fairtrade products via a number of methods, to include:
  - Fairtrade promotional materials displayed on notice boards and in all places where Fairtrade products are sold.
  - Promotional material about Fairtrade printed in College and Student Union publications, student tutorials and on the website/ Moodle.
  - Running a programme of promotional events during Fairtrade Fortnight (normally in March).

All members of the College and Student Council will be actively encouraged to support this policy. The Fairtrade Steering Group will review and update the policy on an annual basis.

**Signed on behalf of Birkenhead Sixth Form College:**

**Date:**

**Signed on behalf of Birkenhead Sixth Form College Student Council:**

**Date:**