



**United Nations**



**STEM**  
LEARNING

ENVIRONMENT - SUSTAINABILITY - INNOVATION

2024



**THE BEWDLEY SCHOOL**  
We fly with our own wings



**THE BEWDLEY SCHOOL FOUNDATION**  
Alis volamus propriis



# THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations (UN) is an international organisation founded in 1945. Its member countries (all 193 of them) have acted together to try and ensure that there is global peace and security since the end of the Second World War. This has sometimes been very hard to do, especially with the recent events in Israel/Gaza and Ukraine/Russia. Its headquarters are in New York City.

In 2015 the United Nations (UN) called a meeting with leaders from over 30 countries to work out how best to work together to solve some of the world's biggest problems. They identified **17 Global Goals** to end poverty in the world by **2030**. They called them the Sustainable Development Goals.

## So what does this have to do with you and The Bewdley School?

We all have a responsibility to try and make the world better.

By learning about the world we can see what the problems are and then maybe, just maybe, **YOU** could be the ones to find solutions to these problems.

## 17 GLOBAL GOALS



# THE PURPOSE OF STEM



STEM is the study of fields in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The study of these fields allow you to progress into fields such as cyber security, medical research, robotics, neuroscience, nuclear medicine, there are many more!

## WHY IS STEM IMPORTANT

The global economy is changing. Current jobs are disappearing due to automation and new jobs are emerging every day as a result of technological advances.

The continual advances in technology are changing the way students learn, connect and interact every day. Skills developed by students through STEM provide them with the foundation to succeed at school and beyond.

Employer demand for STEM qualifications and skills is high, and will continue to increase in the future. Currently, 75 per cent of jobs in the fastest growing industries require workers with STEM skills. To be competitive, the Australian workforce needs people who can adapt to a changing workplace.

STEM empowers individuals with the skills to succeed and adapt to this changing world.



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# WE CARE ABOUT

Creating a sustainable organisation through policy and practice is a key responsibility for any large organisation. For a school there is an additional responsibility, to ensure that the curriculum it delivers teaches sustainable practice, in a meaningful and practical way to its students. In its meetings of January and February 2023, the governing body of The Bewdley School adopted the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a framework to shape both policy and practice, and the curriculum of the school. You will find these goals detailed [here](#), and much about the way we integrate them into our curriculum in the pages which follow this brief introduction.

# SUSTAINABILITY

A consequence of taking on the company has been the opportunity to work in partnership with Transition Bewdley. This forward thinking group has submitted, through the company structure of BDT CIC, a successful bid for £40,000 funding to the Community Energy Fund. This will fund a feasibility study into a District Heating Project, to serve the Bewdley community with a totally renewable and carbon neutral heating source. In brief, the principal behind the scheme is to build a bank of water sourced heat exchange pumps at the back of the school site. They would be supplied with water from wells adjacent to the River Severn which use natural gravels to filter the water. Heat is extracted from the water and it is returned to the river 3 or 4 degrees cooler.



The Bewdley School is the only secondary school in the town of Bewdley, so there are rich opportunities to work in partnership with various organisations, to ensure the sustainability of both the school and the community it serves. As a Foundation School, this potential has been exploited by setting up a Foundation to take ownership of the school's land and buildings. The Bewdley School Foundation is a partnership between The Bewdley School, Bewdley Festival and Bewdley Civic Society. Each organisation appoints directors to the Foundation and as many additional directors are appointed from the Bewdley community.

The scheme would circulate heated water to local houses and businesses, which would remove the need for fossil fuel based heating, and gas boilers would be replaced by heat exchanger units as part of the infrastructure. There is a parallel scheme to increase solar panel usage, expanding what the school already has, to provide electricity to run the heat pumps. This project is reflective of the ambitions of the School and Foundation, in their desire to see the school as the heart of the Bewdley community in providing a very real example of how to create a sustainable and carbon neutral infrastructure.

The school acquired Bewdley Youth Centre under lease from Worcestershire County Council in 2022. It was reopened with lottery funding and our partner charity, The William Mills Foundation, as The Will Mills centre after 10 years of closure. The school also hopes to transfer Bewdley Leisure Centre, which sits on the school sports fields into its estate. The Bewdley School Foundation has recently acquired Bewdley Development Trust Community Interest Company (BDT CIC), a 20 year old company which has achieved much in developing community resources, including the refurbishment of St George's Hall in the town centre. The rationale behind acquiring BDT CIC is for the Foundation to have a vehicle to manage community assets such as the youth and leisure centres on its behalf.

