



Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Boys



Woolwich Polytechnic
School for Girls

PolyMAT Estate Management

Background

PolyMAT currently consists of 2 schools located in close proximity to each other. The schools share the same ethos and culture, but the buildings are at extremes of the spectrum. The girls' school is a new build that opened in September 2019, whereas the boys' school is 50 years old and has far more demands on resources.

It is the intention of the Trust to expand the number of schools over the next five years.

The biggest limiting factor for the boys' school is the lack of space and dated facilities.

PolyMAT Vision Statement:

Our Vision is "Success for Everyone". We aspire for every member of our community, regardless of circumstances or background, to be the best version of themselves - confident, successful students, dedicated, successful staff who are committed to growing and developing as practitioners, and engaged stakeholders who unite in celebration.

Our two core values are CARE and UNITY

CARE. The overriding feel within our Trust is that we care more than anyone else could expect. We care for all aspects of our practice, in particular:

- Everyone's safety and happiness
- Everyone's personal development and growth
- Everyone's outcomes
- Everyone's standards
- Everyone's learning
- Everyone's well-being
- Everyone's relationships

This is reflected by the fact that we call ourselves the Poly Family and we are an organisation based on relationships above all else – we are individual people first and students, staff and parents second.

UNITY. This is the value that ensures that our impact is greater than it ever could be if we worked alone. This means that our schools, teams and individuals are always pulled together in ways which share the workload and create solutions from which everyone benefits. We are determined that nothing can divide us when we put the needs of our community before everything else.

Our Estate Vision:

We are an ambitious Trust that understands the importance of the need to keep facilities and buildings in a safe condition to allow all students and staff collaborate to create their own successes. We are dedicated to maintaining existing premises to the highest standards and by doing so, we are able to reinforce our values of care and unity.

PolyMAT also recognises its responsibility to protect the environment for current and future generations and as such has a vision to producing net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

In order to achieve the two strands of the vision we will:

Aim to create safe and secure schools in which students thrive as learners, acquiring challenging new knowledge, concepts and skills, developing as self-motivated, self-regulated and resilient individuals who can determine their own ambitious futures, competing in academic and vocational worlds better than other students from more advantaged backgrounds. We aim for our students to become sensitive, inquisitive and respected members of their wider community. We strive for our students' success to extend beyond their time at school so that they are valued throughout their lives for their excellence and many contributions.

Break down our sustainability vision into the following areas:

- **Education and stakeholders** – for all stakeholders to be aware of environmental issues and adapt their lifestyles to achieve a sustainable lifestyle.
- **Waste Management and Recycling** – to minimise and manage waste through elimination, reduction, re-use and recycling across the Trust.
- **Energy and Water** - to conserve water through efficient use and management, and to reduce energy use and our carbon emissions to be carbon neutral.
- **Reprographics** – to reduce the volume of printing across the Trust.

To accomplish the above, we will:

- ensure all buildings in the Trust provide safe and fit for purpose accommodation
- provide the necessary facilities to support the school development plan
- ensure all refurbishment projects are environmentally sympathetic
- take every reasonable step to ensure that the school site is fully inclusive

- work with external partners to identify where the Trust is wasting energy and generating excess carbon emissions and develop a plan to improve the overall energy efficiency of the trust accordingly.
- investigate using renewable energy
- engage the school council in both schools to work on new initiatives
- Investigate and cost the mini-bus replacements with electric vehicles
- Install 6 electric charging pods to both sites (funding has already been secured)

In addition to this over-arching statement, the PolyMAT estates' vision is to create a stand-alone sixth form block to be completed by 2024 when the Woolwich poly girls' will be looking for a Post 16 provision. We believe that our Vision is central to our need to expand our provision as it is based on our commitment to inclusion and therefore the need to accommodate the same number of Sixth Form places for girls as we do for boys.

Our Estate Strategy is to:

- Manage all buildings and equipment in an efficient and legally compliant way
- Inspect and test buildings and equipment regularly, taking into account statutory requirements and best practice recommendations
- Promote the safety and wellbeing of our staff, pupils, parents and visitors through effective maintenance of buildings and equipment in accordance with the [Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974](#)
- Comply with the requirements of [The Education \(Independent School Standards\) Regulations 2014](#)

When considering what work should be prioritised, the following principles will be applied:

- The need to maintain a safe environment (potential issues highlighted on the risk register)
- Requirements of the School Improvement Plan
- The priorities on the School Condition Data Report
- Ensuring the facilities are conducive to achieving the Trust vision and values
- Achieving Best Value
- Projects that improve our environmental efficiency

Energy Efficiency

One priority strategy is to make our buildings as energy efficient as possible. Possible solutions currently under consideration are energy efficient lighting and solar panels across the estate.

The proposed energy strategy will aim to ensure:

- A reduction in energy consumption across the estate by 25% over a 5 year period.
- That all buildings are benchmarked for energy efficiency and that information is periodically compared, to identify the priority sites for improvement.
- All refurb or new projects are designed with high levels of energy efficiency in mind.
- All plant will continue to be maintained regularly to optimise efficiency. Inefficient plant will be replaced as soon as possible and funds allowing.

Working with Partners

The Trust has always been keen to work with partners in order to achieve best value and sustainability and use the expertise of professionals. Two of our main partners are:

- Barkers Associates – their experience covers a complete range of services from condition surveys through to major projects including the redevelopment of entire sites. They work with us on funding streams, government policy, education guidelines and initiatives.
- Zenergi - an energy and environmental consultancy that works with us to arrange our energy renewals; supporting us with energy legislation and carbon reporting; identifying ways to reduce our energy use.

We are in talks with other companies such as ClearVue Business to monitor and reduce our carbon emissions.

Roles and responsibilities

The Trustees will hold the Heads of School, the leadership member with responsibility for Health & Safety and the Site Manager to account for the safety and security of all buildings and sites and will ensure that tests and inspections are carried out on a regular basis.

The Heads of School, the leadership member with responsibility for Health & Safety and the Site Manager are responsible for ensuring relevant risk assessments are conducted and for reporting to the Trustees, as required.

The H&S leadership member is responsible for:

- Updating the risk register
- Training of all staff on H&S matters
- Ensuring procedures and processes are adhered to
- Updating the relevant policies to ensure compliance

The site manager is responsible for:

- Inspecting and maintaining the school premises
- Conducting repairs and maintenance
- Being the first point of contact for any issues with the premises
- Conducting and keeping a record of risk assessments and incident logs related to the school premises
- Liaising with the Business Manager about what actions need to be taken to keep the school premises safe

These lists are not intended to be exhaustive.

Inspection and testing

We maintain accurate records and details of all statutory tests which are undertaken at our premises. This includes relevant paperwork and certificates.

All requirements and recommendations highlighted in inspection reports and certificates are reviewed and acted on as necessary.

As part of the records of completed works, we include the dates when the works were undertaken and the details of the individual or company who completed them, along with their qualifications/certifications and/or experience.

The table below sets out the areas we inspect, the inspection frequency, and the person responsible for checking each issue and, where appropriate, engaging a suitably qualified person to carry out inspection, testing or maintenance. It covers statutory checks as well as recommended good practice checks from relevant guidance. It is based on the [checks and testing sections of the DfE estates guidance](#).