INVESTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

OASES

Environment & Sustainability Waste

Auditing and Managing Waste Materials

OASES is based in Esh Winning Academy and uses their waste management systems which ensures that our waste is disposed of properly, according to the Environmental Protection Act 1990. It also follows the simpler recycling legislation brought in in March 2025.

Internal Waste Systems - OASES generates:

- **Paper & cardboard** – packaging and paper.
- **Hard Plastic** – packaging from goods purchased.
- **Soft plastic** – packaging from good purchased.
- **Food** – from project activities that involve food consumption (e.g. Fun & Food, Forest Schools, Forest Bathing) and from staff meals.
- **Cloth** – our uniform, tarpaulins.
- **Batteries** – from items like torches, stop watches etc.
- **Small Electricals** – laptops, monitors etc.
- **General Waste** – items of mixed origin that break and can no longer be used.

OASES staff separate waste into:

- **Paper & cardboard –** into the green container at the front of the main office next to the black bin - removing all foreign bodies including paper clip, staples and cello-tape (paper clips are reused, staples and tape are placed into general waste).
- **Glass, metal & plastic** – into the grey flip top bin in the kitchen which is clearly marked as containing recycling.

- **Soft plastic –** into bags at the front of the office. Office Manager periodically takes the soft plastic to a supermarket to be recycled.
- **Food waste** –compost unit – follow compost guidelines on kitchen wall OR into food waste grey flip top bin.
- **Cloth** – our uniform is worn until it looks unprofessional whereupon it is given to the Office Manager who periodically cuts the logos out of the uniform and recycles it in the clothes recycling bin in Esh Winning Academy. Staff leaving the organisation return their uniform so that it can be put back into circulation and worn by other members of the team / the sessional workers.
  Staff frequently bring in end-of-life cloth (e.g. bed sheets) to be cut up and used in craft sessions with our pupils.
- **Batteries –** are placed in the on-site battery recycling container in the community centre.
- **Small electricals –** Esh Winning Primary recycles small electricals, the collection point is in the community wing foyer.
- **General waste –** into the black bin at the front of the main office – making sure that it cannot be re-used or recycled.

OASES' Waste Audit Results

	Baseline Weekly Amount (2026-27)	Waste Audit 21st September - 2nd October 2026 by weight (kg)	Waste Audit 21st September - 2nd October 2026 Proportionate amounts (%)
Cardboard	4.3kg	8.6kg	23.6%
Paper	6.9kg	13.8kg	37.9%
Metal	0.05kg	0.1kg	0.3%
Hard plastic	0.3kg	0.3kg	0.8%
Soft plastic	0.35kg	0.7kg	1.9%
Food	None	None	0%
Compost	0.7kg	1.4kg	3.8%
Cloth	None	None	0%
Batteries	None	None	0%
Small Electricals	None	None	0%
General waste	5.75kg	11.5kg	31.6%
Total		36.4kg	100%

Waste Reduction Strategies

OASES staff procure and purchase products that are sustainable and environmentally friendly and seeks, to reduce the impact of the waste that it generates by following the 'Rs', hence OASES:

- Refuse – we audit to identify every product entering into our organisation and explore its necessity, so that we only buy what is absolutely needed.
- Reduce – look for alternative, less wasteful products to limit what we put into the waste stream e.g. purchase biodegradable plastic instead of single-use products, buy products that use recycled content e.g. our uniform is made from recycles products.
- Reuse – wherever possible we purchase items that we can use again for the same purpose, rather than buying new e.g. we love to re-use plant pots. We also look for ways of ensuring maximum use, for example creating A5 notebooks from paper that has only been printed upon one side.
- Repair – we won't buy something again if we can mend what we already have e.g. we keep spare parts for our trolleys, we solder our energy kits back together.
- Repurpose – If we cannot use the item again, we will look and see if we can use it for something else / in our project delivery e.g. milk cartons and craft activities.
- Rehome – if we don't want something, but it is still useful, we will offer it to the school / place it on sharing sites like 'Freecycle' to see if we can find it a new home e.g. the spare table.
- Rot – If it can be used to make compost or worm food we will pop it into our office composter.
- Rehydrate – clay can be used again if rehydrated.
- Recycle – If we cannot do anything else we will separate and recycle it.

As OASES aspires to be truly sustainable, our 'Golden Rules' start with consumption, and we only purchase what we absolutely need. To reduce waste even further we:

- Seek to work with and purchase from organisations that have environmentally sound/ sustainable/ ethical policies and procedures.
- Buy local products wherever practical and possible.
- Only purchases from ethical sources.
- Only purchasing products that are environmentally friendly e.g. Ecover washing-up liquid
- Buy better (the best quality that we can afford) to get something that will last longer.
- Buying products made from recycled materials.
- Avoiding single-use items.

OASES seeks to reduce its consumption further by:

- Sharing resources, so that items don't have to be bought for every member of staff.
- Only buying/ replacing what we absolutely need to.
- Thoroughly using consumables e.g. using both sides of paper when printing.
- Re-using whenever possible e.g. tea bags, bring own mug for hot drinks.
- Repairing broken equipment whenever possible.
- Innovating. Thinking of new ways of doing things that use less of the earth's valuable resources e.g. storing data electronically rather than by printed means

OASES' waste is collected by the school staff of Esh Winning Academy and placed with the school's waste and recycling. In order to gain a basic understanding of our waste production we do periodic waste surveys.

The team reviewed examples of resource reuse, repair and repurposing undertaken throughout the year, including equipment repairs, reuse of materials, donated resources and waste reduction initiatives:

In 2025-26 the OASES team have discussed new ways to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfill, and as a result has added new recycling bins to Emerald (OASES's meeting room).

ACTION – rehydrate used/dried out clay where possible.

Joanne Appleby (OASES CEO):

Date: 19/11/2026

Alice Evans (OASES Manager):

Date: 19/10/2026

Board Representative(s):

Date: 19/10/2026