

The Old Vicarage, Evancoyd - Environmental Policy

We live in one of the most beautiful parts of the United Kingdom and are keen to play our part in preserving it for future generations, whilst ensuring continued sustainable communities. Here at 'The Old Vicarage', Evancoyd we are committed to providing good quality service whilst minimising the effect our activities have on the environment.

Here are the ways in which we try to help the environment:

Energy conservation - we try to reduce energy conservation by switching off lights and closing windows if heating is on. We only heat areas that are being used and use low energy bulbs where appropriate; we have a log burner to supplement our oil fired central heating system.

We shop locally - we are fortunate to have some great producers of food, drink, and arts and crafts in our region. We source our sausages, bacon, fruit and vegetables from local farms. Eggs are from our own chickens, our local sheep provide us with our lamb. We grow a range of vegetables that we use for guests as seasonal and appropriate. We also make our own jams with fruit from the walled garden. There are also many local farmers markets in the area.

Recycling - we reduce wastage to a minimum and recycle to the maximum. We gladly accept visitors recyclable waste and we compost all kitchen and garden waste. Newspaper and cardboard are either used for mulching in our vegetable garden or composted. Non compostable magazines and cardboard are collected by our local recycling facility. Metal and plastic are also collected by our local recycling and we take glass to be recycled at our local glass banks.

'Car free activities' - we welcome cyclists and walkers to take a relaxing break at our house. We are a short walk from Offa's Dyke long distance footpath and have a map of cycle routes in this area. There are a number of short distance and long distance circular walks that can begin and end at 'The Old Vicarage'.

The natural environment – we garden without pesticides. Our gardens and grounds are designed to attract wildlife and increase biodiversity. For example, you can see planting of lavender, thyme and buddleia to encourage bees and butterflies; small wildflower meadows with long grass are left to provide seed for birds and insects; log piles create perfect habitats for a variety of species.

Towel and linen policy - we try to avoid unnecessary laundry.

Our message to guests:

We ask that you help us to save water and energy. Here's how you can help:

A towel on the rail means 'I'll use it again.'

A towel in the bath or shower means 'Please exchange'

If during your stay you need extra towels, please ask.

If during your stay you wish your bed linen to be changed, please ask; otherwise we will launder your bed linen upon your departure.

We line dry laundry when possible and use ecological powders and cleaning materials.

Helpful links:

The Energy Saving Trust www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Green Tourism www.green-business.co.uk