



Building an Environmentally Sustainable Business

We are working to build an environmentally responsible and sustainable business at Schoolblazer.

We have started by adopting a single core principle

Durability = Sustainability

The best way to reduce the environmental impact from clothing is to manufacture fewer things and ensure that each item will last¹. We design all of our garments to be worn for at least 2 years – that's well over 100 times. In contrast, the average fashion garment is worn just 7 times before being discarded². This requires a clear and stringent approach to textile development, garment testing and quality control, but minimises the total cost for the planet and our customers.

We still need to produce new garments, so we are committed to building an environmentally responsible supply chain

We have adopted five core initiatives to ensure that the items we produce under our Schoolblazer or Squadkit brands minimise our environmental impact. We know we could do more and plan to add more initiatives over time but we are a small part of a giant industry. These initiatives let us make the biggest impact quickly and help us drive wider industry change.

Sustainable Cotton

We are proud members of the Better Cotton Initiative/BCI³. The Better Cotton Initiative/BCI connects people and organisations throughout the cotton sector, from field to store, to promote measurable and continuing improvements for the environment, farming communities and the economies of cotton-producing areas. By buying cotton products from Schoolblazer, you're supporting the Better Cotton Initiative/BCI Farmers who use water efficiently, care for soil health and natural habitats, reduce use of the most harmful chemicals and respect workers' rights and wellbeing. Better Cotton is sourced via a system of Mass Balance.



Target: We are committed to sourcing 50% of our cotton as Better Cotton by the end of 2022



Recycled Polyester

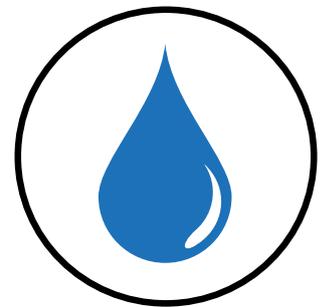
Where we can, we plan to move to using recycled polyester. At present this fibre is more expensive and often doesn't perform as well as "new fibre", potentially compromising our "Durability = Sustainability" principle. However, we are working with suppliers at the forefront of this technology. By the end of 2019 we have committed to ensuring that 10% of our polyester is sourced from recycled sources (principally plastic bottles). We are targeting 25% by the end of 2022.



Target: 25% Recycled polyester purchases by end 2020

Clean Waste Water

Water pollution through the dyeing and finishing process is a massive global problem. We ensure that all of the factories supplying fabric to our supply chain have full water treatment plants and are fully inspected and compliant with the most stringent environmental legislation⁴.



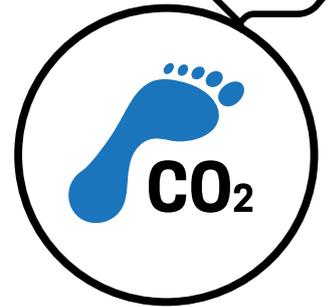
Target: 100% Audited compliance to Oeko-Tex 100

Reduce Single Use Plastics

We have set ourselves ambitious targets to reduce the use of single-use plastics throughout our supply chain. We need to be careful as often these plastics are protecting our fabrics or garments during transport and simply eliminating them would lead to more damage and wastage, easily outweighing the environmental cost of the plastics and compromising our core, "Durability = Sustainability" principle. Where we need to continue to use SUP's we ensure that they are disposed of carefully and recycled where possible.



Target: 50% Reduction in SUP vs 2018 benchmark by end 2022



Reduce our Carbon Footprint

We are very conscious of our energy usage and the impact that CO₂ emissions are having on the global climate. We are working hard on all aspects of our operation to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. For the balance we have partnered with Carbon Footprint (www.carbonfootprint.com), to offset the carbon dioxide that we produce in the operation of our business.

Target: Offset 100% of our Operational CO₂ in 2020.

Annual reduction in CO₂ emissions from our operations each year.

Sources

1 – Wrap, Sustainable Clothing Action Plan

<http://www.wrap.org.uk/sustainable-textiles>

2 – Barnardos

www.barnardos.org.uk

3 – Better Cotton Initiative

www.bettercotton.org

4 – Oeko-Tex Standard 100

www.oeko-tex.com

5 – Carbon Footprint

www.carbonfootprint.com