

# Sustainability Themes

## **Standard 1:**

**Understand the importance and characteristics of Sustainable Urbanisation.**

### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Recognise the scale of urbanization around the world and the opportunities and problems that this brings.
2. Identify the characteristics of a sustainable community and understand the principles of community development.
3. Understand the importance of the '5<sup>th</sup> fuel' (efficiency) in the design and planning of housing and transportation systems.

## **Standard 2:**

**Understand the benefits of Sustainable Consumption and the value of resources.**

### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Recognise and understand major trends in global population dynamics and the demand this puts on resources.
2. Distinguish between the symptoms and the root causes of hunger and population pressure on food choices.
3. Know that population (P), affluence (A) and the choices of technology (T) employed influence consumption patterns and environmental impact (I);  $I=PAT$ .
4. Know the difference between wants and needs and the driving forces in consumption patterns.
5. Understand that there is often an additional cost to be met beyond the monetary consumer-manufacturer transaction and recognize 'Green Wash'.

## **Standard 3:**

**Appreciate the significance of Peace and Human Security whilst developing strategies to maintain them.**

### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Understand what a 'socially just' society might look like for different individuals.
2. Recognise sources of conflict and identify ways to resolve them.
3. State key human rights and explain the role of governmental systems in achieving sustainable development.

## **Standard 4:**

**Appreciate the importance of Rural Development and how to enrich rural communities.**

### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Understand the nature and importance of sustainable agriculture.
2. Identify strategies for alleviating rural poverty.
3. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the ways in which ecotourism can impact rural communities.

### **Standard 5:**

#### **Recognise the importance and benefits of Cultural Diversity.**

##### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Understand indigenous perspectives on ways of living together and using resources.
2. Understand the relationship between culture, religion and sustainable living.
3. Recognise the importance of beliefs, art, literature, music and dance to cultural identity.

### **Standard 6:**

#### **Appreciate the values of Gender Equality.**

##### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Recognise examples of sexual discrimination and understand how this discrimination is often structurally embedded in a society.
2. Understand why gender equality is important in developing a sustainable society.
3. Identify ways in which women are working towards sustainable futures in their own communities.

### **Standard 7:**

#### **Appreciate the importance of Health Promotion and develop an understanding of how to improve it.**

##### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Understand the impact of infection with HIV/AIDS on economic and social development.
2. Identify links between life expectancy, quality of life and living conditions in different geographical locations.
3. Understand the preventability of diseases such as Malaria and the obstacles to their elimination.
4. Understand what constitutes a 'healthy' lifestyle and recognise the importance of Wellness Education in promoting positive behavioral changes.

### **Standard 8:**

#### **Recognise the importance of protecting the Environment and the role of individuals, communities and governments.**

##### **HS Benchmarks:**

1. Understand the synergistic relationship between humans and the natural environment.
2. Understand the need to conserve the complexity of ecosystems.
3. Recognise the role of Science and Technology in addressing environmental problems and the importance of the Precautionary Principle.
4. Evaluate an individual's decisions in terms of carbon and ecological footprints.
5. Understand the roles of policy and taxation in promoting sound environmental practices.

##### **Essential Questions –**

1. How should cities be built for the 22<sup>nd</sup> century?
2. How much is 'too much'?
3. How is conflict resolved and peace promoted?
4. What are the problems faced by rural communities?
5. Why is diversity a strength?
6. What happens when the rights of women are ignored?
7. How is health linked to social and economic status?
8. How do the choices I make impact the Environment?