



Climate Action Plan: 2025 - 2030

The Church of England's vision of education Deeply Christian, Serving the common good (2026) states 'Good schools open up horizons of hope and aspiration and guide pupils into ways of fulfilling them... rooted in God's love and compassion for all people and for the whole of creation.'

As a Christian school, we encourage our children to be:

- Curious, questioning their own and others behaviour, finding out about the world and the deeper questions in life
- Courageous, standing up for what they believe in and for those who are less fortunate
- Compassionate, being agents for positive change and caring for other
- Respect life in all its forms
- Responsible for their actions and for the environment
- Reflect and pray for forgiveness
- Resilient, finding hope in difficult times or situations.

Therefore, our Sustainability Climate Action Plan for 2025 (and beyond) is bound by these core values as well as our common purpose to ensure all those within our school community live life in all its fullness (John 10:10) through the promotion and protection of God's World.

What is Climate Change?

A change in global or regional acclimate patterns, in particular a change apparent from mid to late 20th Century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produce they the use of fossil fuels.

There are many factors that can make the Earth warmer and colder including:
greenhouse gases caused by human activity,

- deforestation, where more than half of the world's surface has been ploughed and paved,
- ozone layer trapping heat closer to the Earth's surface
- different types of air pollution which have different effects on the atmosphere.

The challenge of climate change is formidable. For children and young people to meet it with determination, and not with despair, we must offer them not just truth, but also hope. Learners need to know the truth about climate change – through knowledge-rich education. They must also be given the hope that they can be agents of change, through hands-on activity and, as they progress, through guidance and programmes allowing them to pursue a green career pathway in their chosen field (DFE 2023).

What can we do?

The DFE has called on all education sectors to create a sustainability climate action plan to show how we, as a school community, can support national and international initiatives which are aimed at protecting the world through direct climate action. As a school, we have important role to play in this, particularly reducing our environmental footprint to work towards net zero and giving all children, young people and adults the knowledge and skills to thrive in the green economy and to help restore nature.

Through our sustainability climate action plan, we will engage directly with children and young people who are passionate about the natural world, want to do their best to protect it and can influence their wider communities.

Through their learned and lived experiences from early years to Year 6, our children will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the importance of nature, sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change and to translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.

Using the four areas identified in the DFE's Sustainability and climate change strategy Sustainability and climate change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems - GOV.UK our sustainability and climate action plan will focus on:

- Decarbonisation e.g. taking action to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient.
- Adaptation and Resilience e.g. taking action to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating.
- Biodiversity e.g. engaging with National Education Nature Park Home | Education Nature Park
- Climate Education and Green Careers e.g. knowledge rich comprehensive teaching about climate change.

Developing nature environments at school will help children to:

- spend time in nature and learn more about it
- become actively involved in the improvement of their local environment
- know that regular contact with green spaces can have a beneficial impact on their physical and mental health.

Climate adaptation and decarbonisation activities can help children to:

- participate in the implementation of climate adaptation measures
- find out more about the impact of energy and water use
- See sustainability brought to life in the buildings around them, allowing them to gain experiences which will enhance and contextualise their learning.

Our Climate Action Plan has been written in conjunction with a number of organisations, including Lets Go Zero, Global Action and National Education Nature Park.

Climate Action Plan: The impact column will be populated as we complete the actions, including metrics relating to our baseline assessment of our carbon footprint.

1. Establishing our baseline

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Understand the make-up of our carbon footprint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the 'Keep Britain Tidy' self-assessment calculator and share results with leaders and community. 	
Understand the make-up of school waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a 'bin' audit and share results with leaders and community; use data to inform plan / set targets. 	
Improve air quality on campus and in local area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an air quality survey at various points on campus and in local area during peak and non-peak traffic times; use data to inform plan / set targets. 	
Better understand how our curriculum promotes sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of curriculum provision (subjects and wider curriculum, including worship); agree new content and implementation. 	

2. Decarbonisation

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Reduce energy consumption (electricity and gas).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install sensor light switches with automated shut-off; introduce auto shut-off for computers (6pm); remind everyone re use of IT; Eco-group to monitor 	
Investigate greener sources of energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate viability of solar / wind energy; investigate renewable energy boiler. 	
Reduce carbon emissions from school related traffic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with campus organisation and parish council to reduce traffic / manage flow of traffic at peak times Hold termly walk / cycle / scooter to school days; consider subscribing to national scheme; JRSOs to monitor and provide termly feedback to school. 	

3. Biodiversity

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Develop outside spaces to create more habitats, supporting local ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce more bug hotels; provide a small, shallow pond area (Peace Garden); 	
Develop rewilding areas to promote indigenous species and pollinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regenerate shared arboretum; provide more areas of wild flowers on site. 	
Manage waste more effectively through composting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce composting for appropriate food waste (Eco-team and gardening club); investigate benefits of a wormery; groups to provide termly reports to school. 	

4. Climate education and green careers

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Children develop a deep understanding about the climate and how humans can positively affect it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education through worship and curriculum, linked to themes of inequality and injustice; pupil voice groups monitor actions and share impact with community, being advocates for positive change. 	
Pupils understand how different careers can positively affect the climate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite visitors to talk with children about greener careers / roles which can bring about positive change. 	

Reflection

Respect

Resilience

Responsibility

5. Resilience and adaptation

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Develop outside areas that provide protection from the sun.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess outside areas for natural shade, including buildings (June / July); investigate options for natural shade, including sustainable materials for shelters; plant / build to provide shelter. 	
Adapt curriculum and teaching in the event of sustained high temperatures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review curriculum for June & July; adapt lessons to incorporate outside learning and movement breaks. 	

6. Active and sustainable travel

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Traffic is further reduced on the school runs and on campus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with campus organisation and parish council to reduce traffic / manage flow of traffic at peak times (road closure, campus closer etc) Hold termly walk / cycle / scooter to school days; consider subscribing to national scheme; JRSOs to monitor and provide termly feedback to school. 	
Children understand the all-round benefits of greener travel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefits shared with community prior to events; eco-group to provide termly updates to school through worship. 	
School visits take sustainable travel into consideration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of carbon footprint for school journeys; local opportunities for visitors to be investigated; use of visitors and virtual experiences to be explored. 	

7. Air Quality

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Air quality is improved on campus and surrounding roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions for greener travel. 	

8. Waste, consumption and recycling

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Reduce consumption of consumables and sustainably recycle materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor use of resources (exercise books and consumables); consider recycled products; provide recycling points in school (soft plastics, batteries etc); upcycle / recycle IT hardware appropriately. 	

9. Food

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Reduce food waste at lunchtimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eco-team to monitor food waste, set targets and share with school; work with providers on menus and with parents re food ordering. 	
Promote climate resilient foods (fruit, vegetables and legumes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote 'meat-free' menu days each term; work with providers on menus; provide education about carbon foot print of different foods. 	

Useful information: <https://education.southwark.gov.uk/climate-action/schools-climate-action-guide>

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