



# School climate action plan

2025-28

# Contents

School climate action plan .....	1
Climate action plan .....	3
Climate Action Plan Goals.....	6
1. Action plan goal: establishing your school’s baseline.....	6
2. Action plan goal: decarbonisation .....	9
3. Action plan goal: biodiversity.....	13
4. Action plan goal: climate education and green careers .....	16
5. Action plan goal: resilience and adaptation .....	19
6. Action plan goal: waste, consumption and recycling .....	27

# Climate action plan

Goal	Action	Timeline for the actions	Resources
Establishing your baseline	Establish baseline sustainability data for the school	2025-2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council</li> <li>• Cost: Free</li> </ul>
Decarbonisation	Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by changing the light bulbs to LED bulbs in each school building, installing motion sensors teaching lessons outside and running a Switch Off campaign.	2025-2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team</li> <li>• Cost: TBC</li> </ul>

Biodiversity	Increase biodiversity and our knowledge of it in school by joining an online network, pursuing our RHS gardening awards and rewilding more of our grounds	2026-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council</li> <li>• Cost: Low (funded by RHS awards)</li> </ul>
Climate education and green careers	Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum and share developments through our established Eco Council	2026-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council</li> <li>• Cost: Free</li> </ul>
Resilience and adaptation	Assess school's risk and vulnerability to climate change and then develop policies and practices to manage these e.g. Climate Adaptation Plan, sail shading and water efficient fixtures	2027-2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team</li> <li>• Cost: TBC (fundraising target?)</li> </ul>

<p>Waste, consumption and recycling</p>	<p>Following our established advice from David Attenborough to further increase our knowledge and understanding of waste and recycling by pursuing a range of measures e.g. reuse and swap events, banning plastics where possible</p>	<p>2027-2028</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council</li><li>• Cost: Free</li></ul>
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# 1. Action plan goal: establishing your school's baseline

The following actions will help us to understand our school's baseline climate performance and help to highlight areas that can be worked on.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Understand your school's carbon footprint by identifying where your emissions come from.	Use <a href="#">Keep Britain Tidy's</a> online tool to get a breakdown of carbon emissions.	Autumn 2025	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free	None	<a href="#">Count Your Carbon - Eco Schools (eco-schools.org.uk)</a>	<a href="#">Get involved   Climate Ambassadors</a>

Understand your school's waste by conducting a bin audit.	Conduct bin audit.  Review findings and propose recommendations to reduce or recycle waste.	Autumn 2025	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free	None	<a href="#">How to do a plastic waste bin audit - Plastic Free July</a>  <a href="#">Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools</a>	Free
Understand your school's energy efficiency by conducting a review of energy use.	Review the Recommendation Report from your Display Energy Certificate [DEC] to understand the schools' energy efficiency.	Spring 2026	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free – done in house	None	<a href="#">Energy efficiency: guidance for the school and further education college estate - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	Free
Understand your curriculum by reviewing for	Review curriculum to understand where climate change/	Summer 2026	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior	Air quality	<a href="#">Our City, our world Conceptual milestones And key vocabulary</a>	Free

climate change content.	careers features/ could feature.		leadership team  Cost: Free-several projects offer opportunities		<a href="http://ourcityourworld.co.uk">ourcityourworld.co.uk</a>  <a href="#">Tracked changes project</a>	
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## 2. Action plan goal: decarbonisation

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
<p>Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by installing motion sensors so lights switch off automatically when not in use.</p>	<p>Research most appropriate motion sensors for areas of your school (classrooms/ corridors).</p> <p>Hire contractors to install the motion sensors.</p> <p>Set lag times for sensors – 15 minutes for</p>	<p>Summer 2026</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Low</p>	<p>None</p>		

	<p>classrooms, 5 minutes or less for corridors or toilets.</p> <p>Train staff to use and maintain the sensors.</p>					
<p>Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by changing the light bulbs to LED bulbs in each school building.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Undertake audit of the current situation and develop options to replace lightbulbs.</li> <li>2. Purchase LED lights and replace existing lightbulbs.</li> <li>3. Train staff to use the new lights and replace when necessary.</li> </ol>	<p>Summer 2026</p>	<p>Staff: Operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Low</p>	<p>None</p>		

Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by teaching lessons outside.	<p>Plan a lesson outdoors.</p> <p>Make the most of your outdoor environments and bring students outside for lessons.</p>	Summer 2026	<p>Staff: Operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>	Climate Education and Green Careers	<p><a href="#">Teach Outdoors, Education through outdoor learning</a></p> <p><a href="#">A Teachers Guide to Adapting Lesson Plans for Outdoor Learning (dbdplay.com)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Institute for Outdoor Learning – Home (outdoor-learning.org)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Welsh Harp Environmental Education Centre</a></p> <p><a href="#">Schools &amp; Training — Project Rewild</a></p>	Free

<p>Change behaviours in our communities by running a 'Switch-off' campaign.</p>	<p>Encourage students and staff to turn off lights and monitors.  Provide information to parents/carers in your newsletters.</p>	<p>Autumn 2026</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">Switch Off Fortnight 2024 - Teacher Guidance - Twinkl</a></p>	<p>Free</p>
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### 3. Action plan goal: biodiversity

These actions will help improve habitat and biodiversity around our school.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by joining an online biodiversity network.	Sign up to Education Nature Park for more resources.	Autumn 2026	Staff: educational staff/ senior leadership team, Eco Council  Cost: Free	None	<a href="#">Education Nature Park.</a>	Free

<p>Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by growing our gardening curriculum</p>	<p>Pursue Level 5 RHS Gardening status</p>	<p>Summer 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Educational staff/ senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: low (funding from RHS awards)</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">Simple gardening club ideas / RHS Campaign for School Gardening</a></p>	
<p>Increase biodiversity on school property by developing rewilding areas of school's grounds.</p>	<p>Select an area of school ground suitable for rewilding.</p> <p>Decide what type of rewilding (wildflower field, pond, insect hotels etc.).</p> <p>Buy native plants, stop using</p>	<p>Spring 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team, students</p> <p>Cost: Varied depending on complexity of project</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><a href="#">Operation Future Hope</a></p> <p><a href="#">Seven simple ways to create a wildlife-friendly garden   Natural History Museum (nhm.ac.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">How to make your garden wilder   Rewilding Britain</a></p>	

	<p>chemicals/ pesticides.</p> <p>Let the area grow.</p> <p>Educate staff and students on their maintenance.</p>					
<p>Increase biodiversity on school property by growing more food at your school.</p>	<p>Further develop area to grow food.</p> <p>Grow food and get students/staff/ parents involved in maintenance/ harvest.</p> <p>Distribute food or use for DT or lunches</p>	<p>Summer 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Educational staff/ senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Low (funding from RHS awards)</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">Food Growing and Gardening   edible rotherhithe</a></p> <p><a href="#">Simple gardening club ideas / RHS</a></p> <p><a href="#">Campaign for School Gardening</a></p>	

## 4. Action plan goal: climate education and green careers

The following actions will help us build capability on climate change and assess its impacts within our school.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Share with staff and pupils what climate change action we are taking by promoting successes and achievements	Assemblies, newsletters created each term by established Eco Council.	Termly	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council  Cost: Free	Relevant to all action plan goals		Free
Embed sustainability and climate	Use resources with information on	Autumn 2026	Staff: Educational staff/ senior leadership	None	<a href="#">Teaching for Sustainable Futures</a>	Free

education in the wider curriculum by incorporating it in more lessons.	how to embed. Embed climate change in other lessons. Review impact.		team  Cost: Free		<a href="#">Teach the Future website</a>	
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by inviting external speakers to come into school.	Arrange for external speakers to come into school to run workshops/ talks.	Summer 2027	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council  Cost: Free- several projects offer opportunities	None	<a href="#">Eco Active's Green Influencers Scheme</a>  <a href="#">Energy Garden</a>  <a href="#">Climate Ed</a>	Free
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by teaching climate	Use resources to find ways to learn outside the classroom.	Summer 2027	Staff: Educational staff/ senior leadership team  Cost: Free	Decarbonisation	<a href="#">Welsh Harp Environmental Education Centre</a>	Free

change beyond limitations of a classroom.						
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by holding a climate anxiety workshop.	Develop a session on climate anxiety to help pupils manage climate anxiety and stress.  Deliver assemblies/lessons on climate education.	Spring 2027	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free- low (depending on whether sessions held internally or with external provider)	None	<a href="#">Climate Educational Empowerment Programme — Climate Psychologists</a>	

## 5. Action plan goal: resilience and adaptation

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
<p>Planning: Assess school's risk and vulnerability to climate change.</p>	<p>Use tools to assess your climate risk.</p> <p>Vulnerability analysis to identify the most at-risk areas of the school, such as aging infrastructure or vulnerable student populations.</p>	<p>Autumn 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Depends on actions chosen</p>	<p>Baseline</p>	<p><a href="http://lcat.uk">Local Climate Adaptation Tool (lcat.uk)</a></p> <p>This provides information on health and community impacts of weather hazards in your local area</p> <p><a href="#">Adaptation Scotland</a></p> <p>Resources including workplace resilience to extreme weather in schools and lesson</p>	

					<p>plans to engage students</p> <p><a href="#">Climate Just maps</a></p> <p>Understand how health, social and economic inequality and other vulnerabilities impact your local risk.</p> <p><a href="#">Local Authority Climate Service</a></p> <p>Understand weather impacts for your school</p>	
<p>Planning: create a climate adaptation plan.</p>	<p>Engage stakeholders to tailor CAPs based on specific school needs and local climate risks.</p> <p>Assess measures based on your climate risk profile, your</p>	<p>Summer 2028</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Dependant on actions chosen</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><a href="#">WWF resources for planning</a></p> <p><a href="#">Adaptation Scotland :: The Framework</a> - this guide from Scotland provides a framework for organisations including schools to</p>	

	<p>available resources, and co-benefits.</p> <p>Begin with 'quick win' measures that require minimal investment and show immediate benefits to build momentum.</p> <p>Include measures to build adaptive capacity, for instance thinking about how you can showcase the benefits of a measure as an educational opportunity to teachers, pupils, and parents.</p>				develop their plans	
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<p>Planning: Develop emergency response plans to build resilience in the school.</p>	<p>Establish protocols for rapid recovery after climate events.</p> <p>Ensure you are proactively planning to mitigate risk for vulnerable staff and students, including those with preexisting health vulnerabilities and social vulnerabilities.</p>	<p>Spring 2028</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Free/ Low</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><a href="#">Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Local Authority Climate Service (metoffice.gov.uk)</a> Provides helpful information on what hazards might make you at risk.</p> <p><a href="#">Local Climate Adaptation Tool (lcat.uk)</a> Provides helpful information on community and health impacts to plan for.</p> <p><a href="#">Take action -</a></p>	<p>Free</p>
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					<a href="#">Adaptation Scotland</a>  <a href="#">Climate adaptation toolkit and risk generator (localpartnerships.gov.uk)</a>  Use the risk generator to understand what risks impact education. The toolkit may have helpful activities but is geared to local authorities so goes beyond the level of depth needed here.	
Planning: monitor heat in classrooms.	Install classroom heat sensors.  Train staff to be able to use them and	Spring 2028	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership	None	<a href="#">Appoint pupil energy monitors in all classes   Energy Sparks</a>	

	<p>identify when dangerous heat levels are reached.</p> <p>React to levels with appropriate policy and procedure.</p>		<p>team, Eco Council</p> <p>Cost: Low</p>			
<p>Increase our school's knowledge of resilience and adaptation by raising awareness and educating.</p>	<p>Integrate climate education into the curriculum.</p> <p>Involve students and staff in resilience-building activities.</p>	<p>Across plan</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">Climate Ready Places: Lesson Plans - Adaptation Scotland</a></p> <p>These resources allow students to think about their place and different environments and how a changing climate might impact this.</p>	<p>Free</p>

<p>Increase our school's knowledge of resilience and adaptation by promoting water conservation practices.</p>	<p>Run a campaign within your school. This could include posters or newsletters about conserving and not wasting water.</p>	<p>Autumn 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Free</p>	<p>Biodiversity  Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">The Pod   Water Week (jointhepod.org)</a>  <a href="#">Conserving water / RHS Campaign for School Gardening</a></p>	<p>Free</p>
<p>Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing sail shading.</p>	<p>Locate suitable positioning for solar shading.  Purchase sail shading.  Install grounds shade: sail  Train staff how to use and maintain.  Encourage pupils to use</p>	<p>Spring/Summer 2028</p>	<p>Staff: Operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: ££ (FOAS?)</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><a href="#">8 Ways a Shade Sail Can Benefit Your School - Able Canopies</a>  <a href="#">Arup Compendium</a>  <a href="#">Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/">https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/</a></p>

	during periods of hot weather.					
Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of climate change by installing water efficient fixtures.	<p>Conduct a review/ audit of water fixtures.</p> <p>Identify possible areas of efficiency.</p> <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• low-flow taps</li> <li>• dual flush toilets</li> <li>• rainwater harvesting</li> </ul> <p>Install fixtures.</p> <p>Train staff how to use and maintain.</p>	Spring 2028	<p>Staff: Operational staff, senior leadership team</p> <p>Cost: Low</p>	None	<p><a href="#">School-Water-Audit-Water-Night-UK.pdf (waterwise.org.uk)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Water Efficiency For Schools And Unis   Castle Water</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arup Compendium</a></p> <p><a href="#">Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures</a></p>	

## 6. Action plan goal: waste, consumption and recycling

These actions seek to reduce waste and consumption and improve recycling within the school.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Reduce waste by banning single use plastic water bottles.	Ensure access to fresh drinking water (drinking fountains) for refills.	Autumn 2027	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team  Cost: Low	Climate Education and Green Careers		<a href="#">Coastal Fountain Fund 2024   Sea-Changers</a>
Reduce waste by lowering	Review the school's procurement policy and	Autumn 2027	Staff: School management team, senior	None		

single use plastic.	identify any single use plastics that can be eliminated.		leadership team Cost: Low			
Encourage reuse by running second-hand uniform event.	Run a uniform event at school for second hand uniform exchange and purchase.	Autumn 2027	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free	None	<a href="#">Uniformd</a>	Free
Encourage reuse by hosting swap events.	Host a swap event where students can swap clothes, books, and games.  Host an unwanted present swap.  Donate surplus to charities e.g. Traid.	Summer 2028	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers	<a href="#">How To Organise A Clothes Swap   9 Easy Steps - Cariki</a>	Free

<p>Increase our school's knowledge of waste, consumption and recycling by running a campaign at school to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• remove single use plastics</li> <li>• promote recycling, repairing, reusing, and reducing waste.</li> </ul>	<p>Advertise in newsletters.</p> <p>Hold assemblies and lessons.</p> <p>Run poster competition for students.</p> <p>Advertise on social media.</p> <p>Join a competitive challenge.</p>	<p>Autumn 2027</p>	<p>Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team, Eco Council</p> <p>Cost: Varying</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p><a href="#">Home   Race against waste</a></p> <p><a href="#">Educator Hub - Junk Kouture</a></p>	
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