

Climate Action Plan

Southrop Church of England Primary School

1 year plan from Autumn Term 2025



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Your school's carbon baseline: TBC t CO₂e Calculation: Month Year

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEP																		
ACTION	NOTES	TRACKER																
Calculate your school’s carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting and gives you a baseline against which to measure progress, year on year.  <table><tr><td>20% Energy & Utilities</td><td>34% Transport</td></tr><tr><td>13% Fuel Usage</td><td>0% Vehicles</td></tr><tr><td>7% Electricity Usage</td><td><1% School Trips</td></tr><tr><td><1% Waste Usage</td><td>22% Student Commutes</td></tr><tr><td><1% Water Usage</td><td>12% Staff Commutes</td></tr><tr><td>24% Food & Drink</td><td>21% Purchases</td></tr><tr><td>24% Meals</td><td>15% Spending</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>6% Uniforms</td></tr></table>	20% Energy & Utilities	34% Transport	13% Fuel Usage	0% Vehicles	7% Electricity Usage	<1% School Trips	<1% Waste Usage	22% Student Commutes	<1% Water Usage	12% Staff Commutes	24% Food & Drink	21% Purchases	24% Meals	15% Spending		6% Uniforms	Count Your Carbon is a free, full-scope carbon footprint calculator, built for - and in collaboration with - nurseries, schools and colleges. It supports educational settings to calculate, understand, reduce and track carbon emissions. Aligned with the Department for Education’s Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, Count Your Carbon offers tools and guidance to help educational settings calculate their carbon footprint, reviewing your data and producing a report which will equip you with the information you need to help inform your Climate Action Plan. Calculating your carbon footprint is a great first step on your decarbonisation journey. It will help you baseline your current emissions and set targets to reduce this over time. Let's Go Zero can help support you with understanding how to collect the data you need for the tool, so please reach out if you require further support.	
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Progress Key
Not Started
In Progress
Stalled
Complete

Climate Action Plan history
Last reviewed:

★ = high carbon reduction actions



Overall projected carbon savings: TBC%

GET STARTED				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign By joining this campaign, your school confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all schools reach this goal by the end of the decade.	Start: Review:			Complete
Add sustainability plans, projects and successes to your school website and share through wider communications Celebrate your school's climate action on your website, in newsletters, social media, local press, and events to showcase your successes and involve the wider community. Use the Let's Go Zero comms pack to do this.	Start: Review:			
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead' and where possible provide PPA time for this role.	Start: Review:			

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient

ENERGY – BUILDINGS AND RETROFIT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
★ Optimise your BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set 18°C is the general recommendation for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43°C (stored at 60°C). Experiment with your heating schedule while maintaining comfort - running it one hour less per day or reducing temperatures by 1 degree can cut annual heating costs by 5–10%, according to the DfE.	Start: Review:		You may not have a BMS (Building Management System) but with the recent installation of your oil boiler, I assume there are controls to monitor the temperatures across the site. This may also be controlled on specific radiators (e.g. in your temporary classroom).	
★ Insulate your building Insulate your cavity walls and/or roof to prevent heat loss, improve energy efficiency and save money. Opt for 'green' insulation where possible, such as wool, aerogel or cotton.	Start: Review:			

ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Take part in a switch off campaign Take part in a switch off campaign, e.g. Switch Off Fortnight. Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools). Running campaigns before the holiday period (such as a summer switch-down) can lead to reduced energy use over the holiday period.	Start: Review:			

Implement a power down strategy for electrical devices and appliances Implement power-down strategies across the school, such as sleep and automatic shutdown settings on computers, projectors, and smart boards, and switching off scanners and printers overnight. You can use a mix of automatic (e.g. timer-controlled switches) and manual shutdown approaches depending on need.	Start: Review:			
Monitor energy use on a regular basis through dedicated platforms Use an energy monitoring platform (e.g. Energy Sparks) to visualise and understand your energy usage. Use the data to look for patterns in day-to-day energy consumption and assess your energy baseload (how much energy you use continually). Armed with this information, you can decide where and when is best to target energy savings. If you are already sending your energy data to your provider, get in touch with them and ask them for access.	Start: Review:		You told me that Glos LA are able to monitor your energy usage. Compare this offer with companies such as Energy Sparks who have helped schools save energy and £££s through their platform.	

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Explain reasons for eating less meat and reducing food waste during lessons, assemblies Promote plant-based menu options. Aim to increase uptake of plant-based meals through pupil-led assemblies.	Start: Review:		ProVeg have awarded the Caterlink menu for Islington and Camden schools their 'Silver School Plates Awards'. I think you can email to request this lower carbon version, but obviously this would need to be done in conjunction with the school who cook your meals.	
Introduce or improve on-site composting Set up or improve composting for small items like snack-time fruit, as a supplement to your main regular food waste collection. Composting is a great educational tool for engaging students! To get started, ask your school community for unwanted compost bins.	Start: Review:			

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Carry out a bin audit to ensure mandatory recycling requirements are being met New mandatory waste regulations require all dry recycling and food waste to be separated from general waste. To do this effectively, carry out a bin audit to review location, internal and external capacity, and labelling. Your CAA can provide a bin audit toolkit with label templates.	Start: Review:			
Run waste/plastic reduction initiatives or campaigns with pupils and staff Take school-wide action to reduce waste. Run an initiative yourself, or engage with a local or national campaign. For example, you could work to become a Plastic Free School with Surfers Against Sewage using their free resources.	Start: Review:			
Take part in additional recycling schemes Take part in additional recycling schemes for items that cannot be recycled in regular waste collections. Some schemes can even generate income or green points. For example; Empties Please (ink cartridges); Recycle to Read:(toys , batteries and textiles); Bag2School and Little Recyclers (textiles); Eddings (pens).	Start: Review:			

PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Follow sustainable practices when choosing products This approach involves purchasing products that were designed and produced ethically and sustainably, are non-toxic or made from materials that can be recycled or managed sustainably as waste. This action can follow or support the development of a sustainable procurement policy.	Start: Review:			

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Develop an active travel plan Create and implement your school travel plan which supports cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. Explore if your local authority offers support for this (ex: contact your travel or road safety officer). Modeshift Stars Education is an accreditation programme you can sign up to whilst creating and implementing your travel plan to track your progress and receive awards.	Start: Review:			
Run active travel campaigns Participate in annual Active Travel Campaigns. Your CAA can provide a list of different options (including Living Streets' Wow campaign and Sustrans' Big Walk and Wheel). Aim for these events to trigger a permanent shift to sustainable travel from students who live locally enough to do so. Facilitate walking and cycling to school by establishing Park & Stride or Walking Bus initiatives. Ask the PTA or engaged parents to support with these.	Start: Review:			

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Conduct a climate resilience audit Conduct a climate resilience audit of the school site, e.g. To check all windows and blind open and close, guttering, planting etc. The Climate Ready School Grounds survey from Learning Through Landscapes covers all weather conditions and involves students' opinions of their grounds.	Start: Review:			

Subscribe to receive Heat Health Alerts and write a heatwave policy Subscribe to the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) Heat-health Alert Service . Familiarise your staff with updated DfE guidance on hot weather. Write a heat wave policy to address issues such as uniform, PE, sunscreen and outdoor learning. Consider adopting the joint union heatwave protocol including short-term, medium term and long-term measures.	Start: Review:			
Build sheltered areas on playgrounds for heat resilience Use awnings/shading measures to provide adequate shelter for students on hot days.	Start: Review:			

3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond

NATURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Take part in The Nature Park The Nature Park aims to embed nature-based learning into the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.	Start: Review:			
Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys Conduct wildlife surveys and habitat mapping using the Nature Park resources or take part in activities such as the Big Birdwatch with the RSPB. Use this data in engaging lessons and to inform the next steps in improving your grounds for wildlife.	Start: Review:			

4. Climate Education, Green Skills and Green Careers

Ensuring the education you provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that your teaching staff feel supported to offer this

CULTURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Sign up to Sustainability Support for Education A DfE-funded project that enables education settings to start or progress on their sustainability journey. This includes all types of settings from Early Years to Higher Education, offering suggested actions paired with quality-assured resources. You can filter these to show suggestions relevant to your setting based on your teaching age, priorities, how far you've progressed already, estate, and more.	Start: Review:			
Appoint a sustainability lead with sufficient PPA and support. Appoint a sustainability lead in line with the expectations in the DfE's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy . Provide the sustainability lead with sufficient PPA/TLR to fulfill this role.	Start: Review:			

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Complete a curriculum audit Complete a curriculum audit to understand how and where sustainability currently features in your curriculum as well as where there are gaps. This may focus on topics as a whole or individual lessons across all subject areas. Online resources such as Map The Curriculum may be helpful for this.	Start: Review:			

GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Provide opportunity for all pupils to take leadership on sustainability Provide pupils with more opportunities for engagement and leadership on sustainability projects, e.g. Gardening, tree planting, wildlife surveys etc.	Start: Review:			



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