

Climate Action Plan

Witheridge CofE Primary Academy

1 year plan Autumn 2025 – 2026



Jasmine.newhouse@letsgozero.org

Progress Key
Not Started
In Progress
Stalled
Complete

Climate Action Plan history

Last reviewed:

★ = high carbon reduction actions

Overall projected carbon savings: TBC%

Your school's carbon baseline: 74.10 CO₂e Calculation: 1st July 2024 – 30th June 2025

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEP

ACTION

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.

Operational area	Emissions area	t co2e*	% of footprint
Energy & Utilities	Fuel Usage	0	0%
	Electricity Usage	7.8	11%
	Waste Usage	0	0%
	Water Usage	0.2	<1%
Transport	Vehicles	0	0%
	School Trips	2.2	3%
	Student Commutes	2	3%
	Staff Commutes	1.7	2%
Food & Drink	Meals	23.7	32%
Purchases	Spending	9.6	13%
	Uniforms	27.1	37%



NOTES

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.

TRACKER

Completed

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: October 25 Review: Termly	Briony	TEAM MAT signed up all schools in December 2024	Completed
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: October 25 Review: Termly		The MAT will develop its own template for individual schools to create their own sustainability page Make sustainability more prominent on the school website See The Misbourne's page as an example: Sustainability - The Misbourne You may be interested in the CofE's Net Zero Carbon Schools page Net Zero Carbon Schools	
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: October 25 Review: Termly		Each school has appointed a Sustainability Lead – the next step will involve including different members of staff to support the school's sustainability journey e.g. link governor, relevant subject leaders, catering team etc. Heather Nott as Sustainability Lead. Lucy Ratcliffe to liaise with different members of staff to build a comprehensive Sustainability Working Group	

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

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

ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Implement a power down strategy for energy-intensive appliances over holidays Fridges and freezers are often overlooked during holiday and closure periods and require a lot of energy to run. Check every fridge, including the staffroom, and turn them all off over holiday periods. Condense frozen food down to only one freezer to reduce baseload during unoccupied periods and turn any other freezers off.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		See Energy Sparks' free activity here: Students and staff create a holiday switch off checklist Energy Sparks Turn off fridges in hall, Class 1 and staff room for each holiday break.	

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Weigh food waste from kitchen and plates, share results, and set a target to reduce this Get your students involved in daily weigh-ins of food waste as part of their curriculum or eco-club activities to enhance their understanding of the scale of food wastage. Feed findings back to your school caterer and catering staff to make necessary changes to dishes/menu. Sharing the results with teaching staff, pupils and the wider school community can motivate everyone to reduce their food waste even further.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Briony to organise for catering to report on food waste weight to pupils to increase awareness and reduce waste	
Run a campaign to reduce plate waste from pupils Engage pupils in a campaign to cut plate waste. Campaigns might include lessons and assemblies, portion controls, and the option to pre-order, alongside fun activities. WRWA have some ideas to get you started.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Run your own school campaign to reduce food waste at lunch times – there are many ways schools can achieve this Introduce coloured washing up bowls in House Group colours into the hall at lunch time. Children in each House group tip their waste into the corresponding bowl.	

			Eco Rangers (children in Class 4) weigh the daily totals for each house group and complete a laminated chart to find the weekly total for each House Group. House Group with least food waste is given the Weekly Food Waste award in Celebration assembly on a Friday.	
--	--	--	---	--

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Actively encourage and enable community reuse Normalise acquiring preloved and giving away items for low or no cost. Run regular 'Sustainable Swap' events, and/or set up dedicated 'Swap Spaces' for items such as clothes, toys, books, etc. Could be used as a fund-raising opportunity. Can be incorporated into other school events. Older pupils can be involved in the delivery.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		One or two schools in the MAT already do this for Xmas jumpers with support from the PTA – this could be included in your CAP to include other dress up days e.g. having a 'prop swap' for World Book Day Elicit support and co-ordination from PTFA members to promote pre-loved School Uniform sales and opportunities. Implement seasonal opportunities for community re-use through PTFA swap shops/ pre-loved sales e.g. World Book Day outfits, Christmas jumper swap, summer dress swap, new school shoes, football boots.	

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Promote walking/cycling/public transport to school by educating pupils Educate children (and the wider school community) on the benefits of active travel by, for example, running school assemblies. Secondary schools can consider participating in Modeshift's Travel Ambassadors programme.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Encourage walking/cycling to school through introducing the Golden Padlock – at some point during the week, the 'Golden Padlock' will be attached to a child's bike or scooter. The child will be awarded a prize (possibly related eg hi-vis slap band, bike reflector etc) and a merit.	

			Run 'Walk to School Month' in May in conjunction with community and charity fundraising initiatives.	
--	--	--	--	--

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: October 25 Review: Termly		This is a way to bring pupils into the conversation around climate resilience and adaptation – complete this survey with the Eco Team to look out for what the school can do further Eco Rangers to work with a member of school staff (HN) to complete the school grounds survey and make notes about possible improvements.	

WATER				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Install water butts to harvest rainwater Capture rainwater to use on plants and grounds around school – and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours whilst saving mains water.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Lucy Ratcliffe to investigate with grounds team (Simon Wallis and Rosa Neville) about the possibility of installing water butts to harvest water to be used to water plants around the school site. Possibility of obtaining a grant through SWW to fund the purchase of water butts. HN to investigate.	

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
Establish a gardening/nature club Set up a gardening and/or nature club for pupils or students to join. The club can help develop the school site for nature, outdoor learning and staff and pupil wellbeing. Engage with the wider school community for volunteer support and resources.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Continue to run Gardening Club with the support of wider community and stakeholder involvement (Chris Boyles). Consider applying for the RHS' free RHS School Gardening Awards https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/school-gardening/school-gardening-awards	

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
Appoint a sustainability focused governor Appoint a link governor who will work directly with the Sustainability Lead and working group to deliver the Climate Action Plan.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Each school will need to appoint a link governor for sustainability – you could ask an existing governor who covers e.g. science/geography or recruit a new one LR to organise	

CURRICULUM

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Amend your curriculum to incorporate sustainability Amend your curriculum to include stronger links to climate change and sustainability. This could be a total refresh, a bit of tweaking, drop down days or simply adding extra assemblies. Teach the Future , Royal Meteorological Society (Curriculum for Climate Literacy) and the MoEE have amazing resources on how to weave sustainability throughout your curriculum.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Develop International Partnership Plan with Sanjivani International School so that each partnership task is linked to a UN Sustainable Development Goal, ensuring that children's learning about sustainability is progressive, balanced and embedded throughout their time at Witheridge Academy.	

GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Invite inspirational green careers speakers in to speak to pupils Find green careers speakers to inspire pupils. This could include parents or governors. Use Primary Futures , Inspiring the Future , Speakers for Schools to find speakers.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		HN to liaise with different organisations and speakers to organise speakers/ visitors in to school and visits for children to local sites, to link with wider curriculum learning: SWW – Sophie - slmoore@pennon-group.co.uk Resource Futures – Alex Mack - (beach clean, visit to Energy from Waste plant, free in-school sessions, waste audit) Alex.Mack@resourcefutures.co.uk	


www.letsgozero.org

Ashden is registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee.
 Registered number: 05062574/ Charity number: 1104153
 The Peak, 3rd Floor 5 Wilton Road, London, SW1V 1AP