

Climate Action Plan

High Bickington CofE Primary Academy

1 year plan Autumn 2025 – 2026



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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%

Your school's carbon baseline: 64.05 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	9.8	15%
	Electricity Usage	4.1	6%
	Waste Usage	0.1	0%
	Water Usage	0.1	<1%
Transport	Vehicles	0	0%
	School Trips	1.5	2%
	Student Commutes	3.7	6%
	Staff Commutes	2.7	4%
Food & Drink	Meals	15.7	24%
Purchases	Spending	8.7	14%
	Uniforms	17.8	28%



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	B Parsons (TEAM BM)	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	R Norton (HoS)	The MAT will develop its own template for individual schools to create their own sustainability page 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	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden School Council LGB representative	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.	

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
Incentivise students to address energy usage Proactively engage and empower the student body to take a lead in promoting and implementing energy efficient behaviour changes to help save costs, reduce emissions, and make their setting more sustainable. Incentivise engagement through inter-class competitions and/or eco awards, or by electing school energy champions. LASER Energy have a School Energy Action Hub filled with free energy-saving resources for primary and secondary school pupils.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden School Council		
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	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden A Yeandle (cook)	See Energy Sparks' free activity here: Students and staff create a holiday switch off checklist Energy Sparks	

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Explain reasons for eating less meat and reducing food waste during lessons, assemblies etc Promote plant-based menu options. Aim to increase uptake of plant-based meals through pupil-led assemblies.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden A Yeandle (cook)	You could allow pupils to vote for new meals or host a competition where pupils design/draw a low carbon meal – give pupils autonomy of what sort of health meals they could consume	

Increase the number of planet friendly, meat-free options on offer every day Increase your daily plant-based and vegetarian offers. From more hot meal options to addressing your sandwich or jacket potato offerings, adding some tasty and interesting meat substitutes will make switching from meat easy and appealing!	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden A Yeandle (cook)	Introduce a Meat Free Monday	
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	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden A Yeandle (cook)	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	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden A Yeandle (cook)	Run your own school campaign to reduce food waste at lunch times – there are many ways schools can achieve this	

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: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden School Council	HB to undertake this in January 2026	

Provide students with education on the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling correctly Teach students about the waste hierarchy: '<i>Reduce -> Reuse -> Recycle</i>' through a variety of assemblies, workshops and initiatives. These could be run by your eco-team, local authority, or waste contractor. Teach how recyclables are processed and the importance of reducing single-use and supporting a circular economy. Organisations such as Wastebuster and Recycle Now have a variety of curriculum-linked resources. Your CAA can provide additional resources on request.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden F Trofa	Within Science and Geography curriculum	
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: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden F Trofa	Schools may be particularly interested in Surfers Against Sewage who run the Plastic Free Schools programme	

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	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden	Use PE Grant to buy bike / scooter storage	

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

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

WATER				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency Consider engaging with your local water company who may have an education team or free resources on their websites, from assembly sessions and visits to primary schools for your pupils to webinars, downloadable tools and guides, and more.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden	Take part in Earthwatch's Great UK WaterBlitz so pupils can test their local water quality (sign up to hear about their 2026 study) Request a free speaker from WaterAid UK	

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
Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. add a pond, plant pollinator-friendly plants, put up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels' Develop your outdoor spaces to create a mosaic of habitats and features to provide food, shelter and water for wildlife. Grant funding is often available for this, and make use of the wider community for support and resources.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	H Rowden	Add bird and bat boxes	
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	Start: October 25 Review: Termly	H Rowden	Consider the RHS' free School Gardening Awards to shape their RHS School Gardening Awards / RHS	

wellbeing. Engage with the wider school community for volunteer support and resources.				
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: October 25 Review: Termly	H Rowden	Within the Science curriculum	

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	R Norton (HoS) LGB member	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	
Support your staff to attend local sustainability networks & events Include sustainability networks and events in your staff CPD offer and encourage and support staff to attend. You can include the Let's Go Zero webinar schedule in your CPD offer plus events from UKSSN , National Education Nature Park and other offers local to your school.	Start: October 25 Review: Termly		Briony to circulate any that she comes across	

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: October 25 Review: Termly	R Norton (HoS) H Rowden All staff	Your Climate Action Advisor can share a template for how to conduct a full curriculum audit for sustainability involving all staff in a Twilight session	
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			



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