



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN for Knowle DGE DATE: 1.9.25

NEXT REVIEW: Ongoing

Instructions: This is a template for you to adapt for your school. These are just ideas - you don't need to do them all! Pick the ones that are most appropriate and that work for your school and delete the rest. If you have a Climate Action Group then different members of the group can be responsible for some of the activities. This plan will help you satisfy the DfE requirement for your school to have a Sustainability Lead and a Climate Action Plan by 2025.

	Action	Who?	By when	Comments
Sustainability Fundamentals	Start your sustainability journey			
	Decide who will be the school's Sustainability Lead	Headteacher JH	September 2025	Consider who would be best to do this role - possibly link into SLT and also helpful if they have some curriculum influence.
	Sign your school up to the Let's Go Zero campaign for free advice and guidance on creating your Climate Action Plan.	Sustainability Lead	25.9.25 done	Training webinars and lots of support available if you want it.
Decarbonisation	Energy & Buildings			
	Calculate the School's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon	DB	T2	Free digital tool to calculate carbon footprint for school May need support from a range of staff to get data for assessment
	Appoint pupil energy monitors in the classroom. Visit Energy Sparks for suggested tasks.	JH/SLE Pupil voice	T1	Visit Energy Sparks Energy Saving Actions page for more ideas.
	Monitor energy use on a regular basis by logging onto your school Energy Sparks account or via the ESOS portal .	DB, CS, KLW	Ongoing	May need support from a range of staff to access data. Contact Rachel Dodgson rdodgson@msnpartnership.com at the Trust if unsure



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				about whether you are signed up to Energy Sparks
	Review the recommendations on your Display Energy Certificate (DEC) displayed in your building/s	DB	ASAP	May need support from the Trust. Contact rdodgson@msnpartnership.com DB chasing biomass information from BCC
	Consider improving insulation of buildings	DB	-	May need support from the Trust. Contact scoombs@msnpartnership.com At required level
	Check all energy meters are “Smart” and arrange for meters to be changed where necessary.	DB	-	May need support from the Trust. Contact rdodgson@msnpartnership.com In place
	Switch off campaign. Discuss at staff meetings and get pupils involved. Monitor before and after using Energy Sparks data. Could use Switch-Off Fortnight	DB, JH, KLW	Ongoing	Switch off Fortnight happens in November. There are lots of resources including posters and assembly plans on the website. Included in staff buletin
	Create switch off checklists for end of day/week/ term Create list of things to be turned off in classrooms, offices, particularly at end of term Lights, printers, fridges etc	DB, LLC, CS	Daily ongoing	There are switch off checklists from Energy Sparks here , including an editable version (‘download resources on the RHS of the page).
	Implement a power-down strategy for electric devices, e.g. sleep settings on computers and projectors and air conditioning/electrical heating units.	Site Manager, IT Lead	Daily ongoing	See IT department about IT shutdown overnight and at weekends - see case study on Energy Sparks website



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	Check that your building/s management and heating systems are running efficiently and correctly.	DB	Ongoing	May need support from the Trust. Contact snel@msnpartnership.com
	Carry out a programme of lamp replacement until all are LED, install motion sensors where feasible and where these would be effective.	DB	Rolling programme	May need support from the Trust. Contact dharding@msnpartnership.com
	Organise energy saving campaigns such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep doors and windows closed when the heating is on • Open blinds and switch off lights when daylight levels allow it 	DB/JH	Ongoing	Visit Energy Sparks Energy Saving Actions page for more ideas.
	Ensure that thermostats are not set above recommended 18°C degrees.	DB	T2	You may need support from central estates team, contact snel@msnpartnership.com Due to underfloor heating and glass windows needs to be set higher
	Supply portable heaters for staff working during holidays to allow main heating to be switched off or reduced.	Site Manager Office Manage	Holidays	
Decarbonisation	Transport			
	Work with the “Safer Routes to School” initiative to encourage walking and cycling.	JH	T4	https://www.sustrans.org.uk/for-professionals/education/
	Join in with “Walk to School Week”	JH	Summer term	https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/walk-to-school-week/



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	Provide lockable area for secure storage of bikes	BD	Already in place	Will look at enhancing this
	Encourage car sharing (staff and sixth form).	Headteacher/Head of Sixth Form	In bulletin	
	Encourage staff to sign up for "Cycle2Work" scheme	HR	In bulletin	https://www.cycle2work.info/
	"Act on Idling" Encourage car driving visitors to switch off engines during pick up/drop off to reduce air pollution.	DB	Parent newsletter/taxi liaison	
	Investigate "School Streets Initiative"	Sustainability Lead	T4	https://schoolstreets.org.uk/
	Greener School Trips - Combine school trips using coach travel where possible. Consider public transport as an alternative.	MF trips lead	Ongoing	
Decarbonisation	Food			
	Dispose of food waste in designated bins in the kitchen/dining room/staff room.	LF	Ongoing	Should be dealt with already in catering kitchens but might be needed elsewhere, eg staffroom
	Encourage pupils and their families to join in with Food Waste Action Week	Sustainability Lead	TBC	https://www.wrap.ngo/take-action/love-food-hate-waste/food-waste-action-week
	Encourage staff to have a "Meat Free Monday" to align with the pupil menus.	LF	T3	



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	Encourage use of reusable drink containers through cost incentives or by applying tariffs.	-	-	N/A Reusables are used
Decarbonisation	Procurement			
	Ensure that school purchases align with sustainability criteria (eco friendly products, including electrical goods)	Site Manager, Office Manager	T4	For advice on electrical goods contact dharding@msnpartnership.com
	Use greener cleaning products where possible	Site Manager Office Manager	T4	
	“Round up” unused supplies such as pens, highlighters to restock the school stationery cupboard.	Office Manager	Ongoing	
	Sign up to Furniture/Equipment sites such as Collecteco, or local recycling groups to source useful items that would otherwise go to landfill.	Site Manager Office Manager	Ongoing	Collecteco - https://collecteco.co.uk/ Through the trust
Decarbonisation	Waste			
	Task your “Green Club” to lead waste reduction initiatives	JH	T4	
	Encourage use of reusable water bottles to reduce single use plastic.	Head/Sustainability Lead	Already do	
	Reduce single use plastics and encourage reusable materials. Replace plastic cutlery with reusable cutlery.	Sustainability Lead	Ongoing	Central catering has already done this - but consider your staff room etc. All reusable except fruit pots to introduce
	Implement recycling and composting schemes.	Site Manager	T1	https://getcomposting.com/



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	Reduce printer/photocopying usage in school through awareness sessions and conversations with departments.	MF	T2	
	Host events such as “Repair Shops” or “Uniform/Equipment Swapping” events through your PTAs or through external groups.	SLT	Ongoing	Repair Shops - https://therestartproject.org/about/ https://menssheds.org.uk/ Donation Football Boots - https://charityboots.org Uniform swapping - https://www.climateeducation.co.uk/2024/09/02/how-to-set-up-a-school-uniform-swap-shop/ Community wardrobe and pantry very well established at Knowle DGE
	Run a “Plastic Free Challenge” to see how long an individual/class can go without using single-use plastic.	JH	T5	
	Contact suppliers to see if they offer recycling of their used items.	DB	Ongoing	Board marker recycling - partner with local company, Tom’s Studio - hello@tomsstudio.co.uk who collect used plastic pens and markers and recycle them into new pens. Paper-toners
Adaptation and resilience	External environment			
	Creating tree planting areas for shade or improve	DB/RG	T2	The Woodland Trust -



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	ground stability and protect the future environment.			https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/your-school/ Signed up and awaiting trees
	View the scientific research on how local climates will change for your area.	Sustainability Lead	T5	https://lcat.uk/
Adaptation and resilience	Water			
	Run a campaign within your school. This could include posters or newsletters about conserving and not wasting water. Water Saving Week 2025 - 12-16th May	Sustainability Lead	T5	https://waterwise.org.uk/campaign/water-saving-week/
	Join in with Water Week	Sustainability Lead	T5	https://jointhepod.org/campaigns/water-week24
	Install a water butt to capture rainwater for school plants.	DB	T3	https://www.savewatersavemoney.co.uk/ One in place, ordering another
	Prepare the school for the physical impacts of climate change by installing water efficient fixtures Conduct a review/ audit of water fixtures. Identify possible areas of efficiency. Measures may include ● low-flow taps	Site Manager	TBC	You may need help for the central estates team. Contact snel@msnpartnership.com or scoombs@msnpartnership.com



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dual flush toilets • rainwater harvesting <p>Train staff how to use and maintain</p>			
Biodiversity	Nature			
	Enrol with The Nature Park for nature-based learning to support the curriculum	Sustainability Lead	T4	https://www.educationnaturepark.org.uk/
	Create a gardening club	RG	Ongoing	
	Allocate and create a wildlife area with insect-friendly habitats	DB	Ongoing	https://www.rewildingbritain.org.uk/
	Make and/or Install "insect hotels", bird nesting boxes, hedgehog boxes and solitary bee boxes.	DB Construction	Ongoing	
	Pupils to carry out wildlife surveys and habitat mapping in the school grounds. Join in the RSPB annual Big Bird Watch.	LD	T4	Big Bird Watch - https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch/info
	Encourage pupils to grow plants and get involved in their maintenance and harvesting.	RG	Ongoing	https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/school-gardening
Climate (green skills and careers)	Culture			
	Involve your school in Climate Action Countdown	Sustainability	23-27th June	Primary & Secondary Resources



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	week - see links for Resources	Lead	2025	📌 Climate Action Lead - Shared Resources
	Create a sustainability working group to decide on roles and to build your leaders' knowledge and awareness.	Headteacher	T5	
	Hold a film screening of David Attenborough's "Climate Change - The Facts"	BW in WoW	T6	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m00049b1/c/imate-change-the-facts
	Join the UK Schools Sustainability Network Operations Group - UKSSN - to network with other schools to improve sustainability.	Sustainability Lead	T6	https://ops.ukssn.org/
	Become an Eco-School.	Sustainability Lead	Ongoing	https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/about/what-is-eco-schools/
	Provide CPD opportunities for staff on sustainability through The Carbon Literacy Training Project.	SN	CPD cycle	https://carbonliteracy.com/
	Create a student climate action group or "Green" Club.	Student voice lead	Ongoing	https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/the-ultimate-toolbox-for-starting-an-eco-club-in-school
	Visit the Green Careers Hub for advice on Green Careers	JF careers lead	Ongoing	https://www.greencareershub.com/green-future/green-skills/
	Explore options for "eco-induction" scheme for new pupil intakes.	Sustainability Lead	T1 2026	
	Monitor your impact - Establish a baseline and then	Sustainability	TBC	



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	collect data to demonstrate the impact you are having, and use this to tailor future strategies.	Lead		
Climate (green skills and careers)	Curriculum and Green Skills			
	Carry out a curriculum audit to incorporate sustainability.	Sustainability Lead	T6	https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/ https://www.wwf.org.uk/get-involved/schools/sustainable-futures/educators https://www.teachthefuture.uk
	Set up a sustainability working group with a range of stakeholders across the school.	Sustainability Lead	Ongoing	Find ideas and resources here: https://www.sustainabilitysupportforeducation.org.uk/indicator/create-a-sustainability-working-group
	Add sustainability goals/projects and successes to the school website to raise profile and celebrate achievement/progress.	Office Manager/person responsible for website	T4	
	Teacher materials: "Teach the Teacher" provides students with free training, resources and support so they can teach their teachers about climate change and how easy climate education can be.	Sustainability Lead	T5	https://www.sos-uk.org/project/teach-the-teacher
	Access the Climate Ambassadors Scheme to invite to school assembly on a topic of interest to your school	Sustainability Lead	TBC	https://climateambassadors.org.uk/
	"Green up" the Curriculum - Use Friends of the	LD	Geography	https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate/clean-air-schools



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	Earth Clean Air Schools Pack for KS2 lessons.		cycle	-pack-1
	Create a clean air action plan to tackle air pollution in and around your school.	-	-	https://www.transform-our-world.org/programmes/clean-air-for-schools
	Review DEFRA Air Quality data	Site Manager or Sustainability Lead	T2	https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/
	Consider hosting a “Mock COP” ahead of COP 30 at the end of 2025. The InterClimate Network has resources here.	Sustainability Lead	TBC	https://interclimate.org/
	Organise litter picking events on the school site or join in with community events.	DB	Regularly	
	Design and undertake pupil-led projects through the Green Schools Project	Sustainability Lead	TBC	https://www.greenschoolsproject.org.uk/
	Ask parents and local businesses to support school sustainability efforts.	Headteacher	Newsletters	
	Engage with local decision-makers to advocate for more action from councils and governments. Invite your MP into school to meet with your student climate action group or “Green” Club. Attend local council meetings/MP surgery to find out what they are doing to address the climate crisis.	Headteacher	T4	https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP