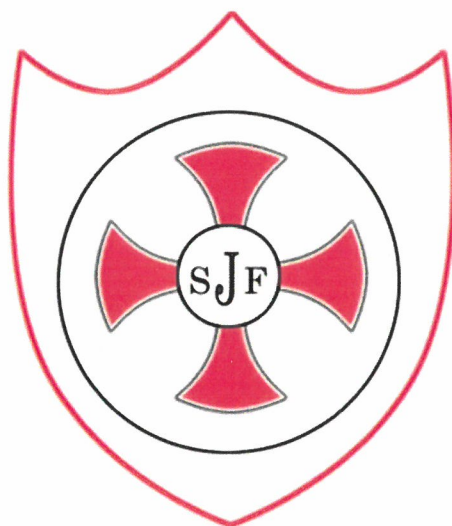


St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

Climate and Environmental Sustainability Policy



***“With God’s love, we are a Family; Caring,
learning and Growing together”***

Date of policy	September 2025
Written by	Joanne Harrison
Review date	September 2026
Ratified by	<i>A. Culiffe</i> (RE LEAD GOVERNOR)

Climate and Environmental Sustainability Policy

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School

1. Mission Statement

Inspired by the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Care for God's Creation and Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, St John Fisher Catholic Primary School is committed to nurturing a culture of environmental stewardship. We seek to form students who understand their responsibility to protect our common home and who act with respect, justice, and compassion toward all of creation.

2. Purpose

This policy establishes the school's commitment to:

- Reducing its environmental impact
- Encouraging sustainable practices across the school community
- Integrating ecological awareness into teaching and learning
- Forming students who are environmentally responsible global citizens

3. Guiding Principles

1. Catholic Identity: Stewardship of creation is a core expression of our faith.
2. Education for Sustainability: Environmental literacy is essential for lifelong discipleship and responsible citizenship.
3. Community Partnership: Sustainability requires cooperation between students, staff, families, parish, and the wider community.
4. Continuous Improvement: The school will regularly evaluate and enhance its environmental practices.

4. Key Commitments & Actions

4.1 Energy and Resource Efficiency

- Reduce electricity and water consumption through efficient systems (LED lighting, timers, sensors).
- Maintain annual audits of resource use and set measurable reduction targets.
- Ensure heating, cooling, and equipment are used responsibly and turned off when not needed.

4.2 Waste Reduction and Recycling

- Implement a whole-school waste separation system (paper/cardboard, mixed recycling, organic waste, landfill).
- Minimise single-use plastics in lunchboxes, school events, and staff rooms.
- Promote “nude food” days, composting programs.

4.3 Sustainable Procurement

- Prioritise suppliers who demonstrate ethical and environmentally responsible practices.
- Purchase durable, recyclable, and energy-efficient products where possible.
- Encourage digital communication and reduced paper use.

4.4 School Grounds and Biodiversity

- Maintain gardens that promote native biodiversity and habitat for local species.
- Provide spaces for student-led environmental projects such as veggie gardens or habitat areas.
- Avoid harmful chemicals, favouring natural or low-impact alternatives.

4.5 Learning and Teaching

- Integrate environmental education across the curriculum, grounded in Catholic teaching on creation stewardship.

Active participation and Eco club and school gardeners

- Engage students in hands-on learning through gardening, sustainability projects, and nature-based activities.
- Celebrate events such as Laudato Si' Week, World Environment Day, and the Season of Creation.

4.6 Community Engagement

- Partner with parish groups, local councils, and environmental organisations.
- Provide families with resources and opportunities to support sustainable living at home.
- Encourage student leadership through eco-teams, green captains, or sustainability committees.

4.7 Climate Action and Resilience

Have solar panel fitted on school roof.

- Develop clear plans for climate-related emergencies (heatwaves, air-quality events, storms).
- Support initiatives that reduce the school's carbon footprint, including tree planting and renewable energy options.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

School Leadership

- Ensure implementation and regular review of this policy.
- Provide professional learning for staff on sustainability practices.

Staff

- Model responsible environmental behaviour.
- Incorporate climate and sustainability themes into teaching and daily routines.

Students

- Participate actively in sustainability initiatives and care for school grounds.
- Demonstrate respect for creation in personal actions.

Parents/Guardians

- Support sustainable habits at home and within the school community.

6. Monitoring and Review

- The policy will be reviewed every two years.
- Sustainability targets and progress will be reported annually to the school community.
- Feedback from staff, students, and parents will inform improvements.