

# Our Climate Action Plan

(2025-2027)

## Mission

*Together we love, learn, follow Jesus*

## Vision

*At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.*

## Values

Hope    Thankfulness    Collaboration    Compassion    Friendship    Resilience    Empathy  
Creativity    Justice    Respect

## [Genesis 1:26-28](#)

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."



### A Prayer for The Jubilee Year

*Creator God, You have entrusted us with the care of Your creation. We ask for the strength and wisdom to be faithful stewards of the Earth, that we may protect the beauty and resources of the planet for the future generations. May this Jubilee Year be a time of renewal, healing and hope for all creation. Through Christ or Lord, Amen*



*At St Joseph's Catholic primary School, we are deeply committed to fostering a sustainable future and embracing our role as stewards of God's creation. Guided by our values and the call to care for our common home, we strive to integrate sustainable practices into every aspect of school life. Through education, we empower our students to understand the challenges of climate change and inspire them to take meaningful action towards a greener, more sustainable world. Together, as a community, we aim to nurture a culture of environmental responsibility that reflects our faith and dedication to preserving the beauty and resources of our planet for generations to come.*

### *Actions Already Taken:*

- *Established the Stewards of the Earth pupil leadership group to champion sustainability initiatives, they are known as the 'Planet Protectors'*
- *Implemented Meat-Free Fridays and introduced daily vegetarian meal options in the school lunch menu. Meals are pre-ordered to reduce waste*
- *We have a vegetable patch*
- *Installed bird feeders and bug houses to enhance biodiversity on school grounds.*
- *Introduced secure bike storage to encourage active travel.*
- *Adopted digital communication tools to reduce paper usage and encourage paperless office practises.*
- *We have a successful Forest School provision - learning outside the classroom which focuses on sustainability projects*
- *New Boiler recently fitted which will improve carbon emissions.*
- *Air quality in school monitored - staff are encouraged to open windows and doors to allow fresh air to circulate.*
  - *We recycle paper and plastics around the classrooms and staffroom.*
  - *Students are educated about air pollution and how they can reduce their own exposure to pollution and how they can reduce their contribution to it.*

## 1. Staff expertise

Objective	Actions	Person responsible	Resources needed	Success criteria	DfE Area
1. Build staff capacity on energy, carbon and nature-based approaches	1. Deliver one training CPD session on school grounds biodiversity. 2. Commission a short training visit from a local energy advisor (smart meter interpretation, basic energy audits). 3. Share short weekly energy tips in staff briefings. Begin regular monitoring of energy use by site management staff.	Headteacher / SLT	- Budget for two CPD days or external trainers - Time in inset calendar - Printed/email guidance	- All teaching and support staff attend at least one CPD per year - Energy tips noted and acted upon (e.g., lights off, thermostats) - School able to run a basic energy walkaround independently	Decarbonisation
2. Ensure safe handling/a awareness of new boiler/heating system	1. Provide operation briefing for the hydrogen-ready boilers to site lead and SLT.	Site manager / Headteacher	Manufacturer/installer documentation for boilers	Site manager demonstrates correct boiler operation records	Adaptation and resilience

## 2. Staff/Pupils/Parents

Objective	Actions	Person responsible	Resources needed	Success criteria	DfE Area
1. Embed energy-saving behaviours across school community	1. Implement classroom energy champions (Planet Protectors). 2. Publish weekly "Earth Minutes" on classroom noticeboard to keep a record of how many minutes the lights and computers have been switched off. 3. Reward classes for consistent energy-saving actions (stickers/assembly recognition).	Eco-coordinator (teacher) / Headteacher	- Small budget for rewards Poster/noticeboard space - Time to track actions	- Visible energy champions in each class - Reduction in energy use during school hours within termly measurements - Positive pupil engagement in assemblies	Decarbonisation
2. Increase pupil engagement in litter and recycling	1. Expand pupil litter-picking to include fortnightly recorded sessions with routes. 2. Introduce recycling bins in every classroom and teach correct sorting. 3. Log recycled volumes termly.	Eco-committee pupils with Eco-coordinator	- Recycling bins per classroom - Protective equipment for litter-picking - Recording sheets	- Recycling bins in all classrooms in place - Measurable increase in recycled material and reduced bin contamination -	Biodiversity

				Regular litter-picking timetable maintained	
3. Reduce water usage.	Launch water-saving campaigns with signage in classrooms and communal areas.	Eco-coordinator (teacher) / Headteacher	Small cost of producing signage around school.	Water usage reduced. Increased awareness amongst pupils of the need to reduce water usage.	Climate education and green careers / Biodiversity
4. Increase the number of pupils walking or cycling to school each day.	Launch walk to school incentives.  Provide 'Bikeability' sessions for Y2 upwards to promote active travel to/from school.	Eco-coordinator (teacher) / Headteacher	Small budget for Bikeability course each year. Reward system and chart to monitor class % for walking to school.	Percentage of pupils walking to school increases over time. The number of children cycling to school also increases over time.	Climate education and green careers / Biodiversity
Engage parents in school sustainability	1. Promote volunteering opportunities.	Eco-coordinator (teacher) /	Communication channels - Volunteer coordination -	Increased parent participation. - Positive feedback. - Fundraising	Climate education and green careers / Biodiversity

ity initiatives	2. Communicate climate action progress. 3. Encourage sustainable travel choices. 4. Involve parents in fundraising.	Headteacher and the PTA	Fundraising materials	targets met. - More sustainable travel reported.	
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### 3. Buildings/grounds

Objective	Actions	Person responsible	Resources needed	Success criteria	DfE Area
1. Reduce energy use and improve energy monitoring	1. Install a smart meter and set up an online consumption dashboard. 2. Set heating schedule to match occupancy; use boilers efficiently.	Headteacher / Site manager	- Funding for smart meter installation - Support from energy supplier - Boiler manuals and commissioning report	- Smart meter data available and used monthly - Reduced gas/electric consumption per pupil year-on-year -	Decarbonisation

				Heating schedule aligned to school day	
2. Install solar PV to generate on-site low-carbon electricity	1. Commission a feasibility survey considering roof age/condition and asbestos implications for works. 2. Apply for suitable grants or energy company offers; evaluate payback. 3. Work with installer to ensure minimal disturbance and asbestos-safe procedures.	Headteacher / Governors (Premises Committee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Budget/ grants</li> <li>- Feasibility study provider - Access to building surveys and asbestos register</li> <li>- Procurement support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feasibility study completed within 6 months - Solar PV installed (subject to feasibility) or clear plan with funding identified - Reduction in grid electricity use and carbon emissions</li> </ul>	Decarbonisation
3. Use outdoor space to enhance biodiversity and learning	1. Expand forest school activities and create native wildflower areas.	Forest School leader / Eco-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Native plant plugs/seeds - Tools and volunteer time</li> <li>- Small budget for habitat materials</li> </ul>	Increased biodiversity	- Increased biodiversity



	<p>2. Install hedgehog homes, bird boxes and insect hotels across extensive grounds.</p> <p>3. Compost bin installed (recycle leaves and food waste).</p> <p>4. Water butt installed to collect rain water to use to water the plants in Summer.</p> <p>5. Plastic recycling bins in every classroom and on the playground.</p>	coordin ator			
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