Starting our Sustainability Journey

Action	Complete
Register our school on Sustainability Support for Education	✓ 13/06/25
Sustainability in Education event at ARU Chelmsford	✓ 26/03/25
Arrange meeting with a Climate Ambassador (Hannah Gold)	✓ 13/06/25
Complete Climate Audit for our setting	✓ 12/06/25
Appoint Climate and Sustainability Lead	✓ 27/06/25
Create Climate Action and Sustainability Policy	✓ 13/06/25

Perryfields Junior School Climate Action Plan: 2024-27

What is a Climate Action Plan?

In April 2022, the Department for Education released a sustainability and climate change strategy specifically for education. By 2025, all education settings are expected to appoint a sustainability lead and develop a climate action plan. This plan will guide schools in both implementing and educating about various sustainability initiatives. Our climate action plan has been created collaboratively by the headteacher, assistant headteachers and sustainability lead.

Why do we want to act?

At Perryfields Junior School, we are committed to creating a sustainable future through education. We take a holistic approach to embedding sustainability across our ethos, curriculum, and daily operations. Our core values of *kindness* and *respect* extend to the way we care for our environment, reinforcing our belief that every action counts. Our curriculum driver, *Global Citizenship*, inspires our pupils to develop a sense of responsibility for the world around them. It encourages them to think critically, act compassionately, and engage in meaningful efforts to protect the planet.

This sustainability action plan is aligned with the Department for Education's guidance and reflects our ambition to deliver excellence in environmental education. It supports our mission to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to become thoughtful stewards of the Earth.

How will we deliver this climate action plan and monitor progress?

At Perryfields Junior School, our climate action plan will focus on four key areas: decarbonisation, adaptation and resilience, biodiversity, and climate education and green skills. Each of these areas will have clear objectives, with specific actions outlined for the current academic year. Our entire school community – students, staff, parents, and the wider local community – will work collaboratively to bring this plan to life. Engaging with everyone, listening to their ideas, and involving them in our green initiatives is crucial. We will continue to build on existing relationships and forge new partnerships, leveraging shared resources and support to help meet our sustainability goals. The delivery of our climate action plan will be overseen by SLT and a copy will be provided to the governing body to review. To ensure the plan is implemented effectively, we will provide staff with the necessary time and resources to develop and carry out the actions. Specific members of staff will be identified as leads for key elements of the plan. This overarching climate action plan will be reviewed and updated every three years to reflect progress and evolving needs. On an annual basis, we will set new goals and assess our progress, ensuring we are on track to meet our sustainability targets. Regular termly reviews will help keep us focused and accountable as we work towards our long-term vision.

Climate Action Plan

TRANSPORT					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 1) decarbonisation 2) biodiversity 3) adaptation and resilience 4) climate education and green careers goals	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**
Climate Education and Green Careers	Complete the school census 'mode of travel' question to gather baseline data on how students and staff travel to school.	Complete the school census to collect data on the current modes of travel to school, establishing a baseline to measure future changes.	Started: Summer 2 2025: Eco-Warriors Review: Annually	Eco-Warriors	Data collected will provide insights into current travel habits, allowing the school to measure the effectiveness of future initiatives to encourage sustainable transport.
Decarbonisation	Introduce 3PR scheme to encourage children to walk or cycle to school.	Set up club with adult supervising 3PR children who distribute tokens to children on arrival to school. Token boxes distributed between classes	Started: Spring 2 2025 Review: Autumn 1 2026 Timeframe: Ongoing	3PR club members/ led adult – overseen by sustainability lead	Reduction in car traffic around the school, leading to improved air quality and a safer environment. Success measured through participation rates and feedback from the school community.

		3PR trophy handed out in assembly to class with most tokens at end of each half term			
Decarbonisation	Offer Year 6 cycle safety lessons to encourage children to bike to school	Book 'Bikeability' annually (in summer term) for year 6.	Complete ✓	Office Staff	Encourages more children to bike to school.
WASTE					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 1) decarbonisation 2) biodiversity 3) adaptation and resilience 4) climate education and green careers goals	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**
Decarbonisation	Implement new recycling scheme across school	Conduct bin audits. New recycling bins to be ordered and distributed around school.	Start: Spring 2 2025 Complete ✓	School Business Manager, Sustainability Lead with support from kitchen staff and Site Manager	Effective recycling practices school-wide, with decreased contamination levels in recycling bins and improved understanding among staff and students.
Climate Education and Green Careers	Deliver assemblies about different types bins and how to recycle both in school and at home	Create and deliver assembly on recycling	Start: Assembly carried out in Autumn 1 by AR	Sustainability Lead/ SLT	Children are confident regarding how to recycle in school and it will encourage them to continue good recycling

			Review: Annually		habits when they're not at school.
Decarbonisation	Reduce waste (including paper and plastic)	Communicate with staff that we will reduce paper waste by printing on both sides of paper wherever possible, having scrap-paper drawers and using emails as much as possible. Encourage pupils to bring reusable water bottles into school rather than using disposable single-use plastics. Staff will be encouraged to consider what materials can be reused the following year, when clearing out their classrooms at the end of a term or year.	Start: Summer 2 2025 Review: Annually Reviewed: Spring 2 Timeframe: Ongoing	SLT/ Business Manager	Waste across all materials is reduced.
Decarbonisation	Run second-hand uniform shop	Run second-hand uniform event termly where parents can purchase uniform items (have this available on demand as well). Encourage parents to donate spare items of uniform	Complete ✓	Office Staff	Reduce clothing waste in our community
CURRICULUM					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**

5) decarbonisation 6) biodiversity 7) adaptation and resilience 8) climate education and green careers goals					
Climate education and green careers	Review the current curriculum and links to sustainability and climate change	Completion of curriculum review with documented connections to sustainability and climate change by end of academic year; update published on school website	Review carried out by AR in Spring 2 2025. Review: Annually New outdoor learning curriculum implemented Summer 2 2025	SLT, Sustainability Lead/ Subject Leaders	Improved student awareness of climate issues and increased integration of sustainability topics across subjects, evaluated through student feedback and curriculum audits
Climate education and green careers	Find creative ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum	Use review of current curriculum to draw subject leaders to areas where it is absent/ can be incorporated more into the curriculum so that they can create meaningful links. Specific emphasis on science, geography and DT	Started: Spring 2 Review: Annually	Sustainability Lead/ Subject Leaders	Broader curriculum engagement with sustainability, with successful projects showcased and discussed in school, measured by student interest and feedback
Climate education and green careers	Promoting green careers to pupils	Evidence of at least one session per year dedicated to green careers (workshops, career talks, or visits from professionals in sustainability sectors)	Start: Autumn 1 2026 Review: Annually	Sustainability Lead/ Subject Leaders and SLT	Increased student awareness of green career pathways

Climate education and green careers	Encourage whole-school participation in environmental awareness days	Participate in environmental awareness days such as Earth Day (22nd April), World Ocean Day (8th June) and Clean Air Day (15 June)	Start: Autumn 1 2025 Earth day assembly carried out by AR. Endangered species assembly carried out by Eco-warriors Review: Annually	Sustainability Lead	Educate children on environmental issues.
OUTDOOR SPACE					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 9) decarbonisation 10) biodiversity 11) adaptation and resilience 12) climate education and green careers goals	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**
Adaptation and Resilience	Introduce additional shade structures to reduce heat risk and allow time outdoors in hot weather	Gain governor approval for canopy to be erected around classrooms and for astro turf cover. Ensure that shaded outdoor spaces are available for use in high temperatures or adverse weather.	Complete ✓	Head, Business Manager	Improved outdoor learning and play environments with reduced heat exposure, measured through student and staff feedback on comfort and usage of shaded areas

Biodiversity	Start a gardening club to help pupils learn about nature outside the curriculum	Have either staff member run gardening club or adult in charge of eco warriors. Apply for free shrubs through the Woodland Trust website and plant them with the Gardening Club by Spring 2026 to enhance biodiversity and improve air quality.	Start: Spring 2026 Review: Complete Nature Navigators summer club led by AR and LR	Sustainability Lead/ Eco Warriors	Enhanced biodiversity and improved air quality on school grounds, with progress tracked through planting records and observations of local wildlife increases
Climate education and green careers	Use appropriate areas of the school grounds as an environmental classroom	Look into funding for forest area to improve provision and explore places in the curriculum where it can be used to enhance learning.	Environmental classroom being built April 2026 Outdoor classroom completed April 2026	Sustainability Lead	Enrich children's learning experience and highlight importance of nature.
WATER					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 13) decarbonisation 14) biodiversity 15) adaptation and resilience 16) climate education and green careers goals	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**
Adaptation and Resilience	Install water fountain outside so that children have access to cold water in hot weather	School Council to raise funds for water fountain.	Start: Spring 2 2025 Complete ✓	School Council, Business Manager	Reduces risk of dehydration and overheating in hot weather.

Climate Education and Green Careers	Promote the use of refillable water bottles and cups among staff, parents, and students.	Reduction in disposable bottle and cups use at school.	Start: Autumn 1 2025 Review: Annually	Sustainability Lead/ Eco Warriors	Decrease in single-use plastics and an increase in sustainable practices
FOOD					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 17) decarbonisation 18) biodiversity 19) adaptation and resilience 20) climate education and green careers goals	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**
Climate Education and Green Careers	Promote pupils' understanding of food and where it comes from	Review DT, geography and science curriculum and incorporate information about food sources and educate about sustainable alternatives.	Start: Autumn 1 2025 Review: Annually	Sustainability Lead/ Subject Leaders	Increase pupil awareness of where food comes from and how this affects our environment.
Decarbonisation	Participate in 'Meat-free Days' to reduce high-carbon food in your menus	Review school menu and use pupil voice to help decide on meat free dishes for 1 or 2 days a week.	Complete ✓	Kitchen Staff/ Business Manager	Reduce carbon footprint by reducing meat intake. Monitor through pupil meal numbers.
ENERGY					
Department for Education's (DfE) requirements 21) decarbonisation 22) biodiversity	**Action**	**Steps**	**Timeline for action**	**Responsibility**	**Impact/Evaluation**

23) adaptation and resilience 24) climate education and green careers goals					
Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances, and plugs when not in use	Staff compliance tracked through periodic checks and energy audits.	Start: Autumn 1 2025 Review: Annually/ bi-annually	Business Manager	Reduction in energy usage, evaluated through regular energy consumption reports and feedback from staff on energy saving practices.
Decarbonisation	Heating controls to monitor/ control temperature across school	Ensure the heating control panel is used to limit heating usage, with heating turned on only in colder months when temperature drops significantly.	Complete ✓	Site Manager	Improved temperature regulation, reduced energy consumption, and increased comfort for staff and students. Evaluation through consistent temperature checks and reduced heating bills.
Decarbonisation	Monitor energy costs and investigate concerns, particularly when the building is not in use	Monitoring reports produced, highlighting trends and areas of concern. Ensure energy-saving measures are in place during periods of low building use.	Review: TBC	Business Manager	Improved energy efficiency and reduced costs, tracked through a downward trend in energy expenditure over the school year.
Decarbonisation	Get solar panels installed	Use 'solarforschools' to get solar panels installed and utilise their student programme which gets children involved in the design process.	Start: TBC	Business Manager/ Sustainability Lead (for enrichment side)	Reduce carbon emissions and save on energy costs. Give children sense of ownership.