



Ethelbert Road Primary School

Climate Change and Sustainability Action Plan



Everyone is aware that our world is facing a crisis caused by pollution, a lack of recycling and poor waste management and energy efficiencies and that unless we do something about this the world that we currently know will become a very different place for our children.

Ethelbert Road has used the DfE guidance [sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education](#), formed a sustainability team and created an action plan which targets the four key areas:

1. decarbonisation
2. adaptation and resilience
3. biodiversity
4. climate education and green careers

Other resources used are:

- We have signed up to [Let's Go Zero](#)
- We use the [climate action planning tool](#) from Transform Our World
- We measured our school's carbon emission footprint with [count your carbon tool](#)
- We connected with the [climate ambassadors scheme](#) for free tailored support and guidance from experts
- We use the [WWF schools sustainability guide](#) for tips on how to take action for climate, nature and sustainability in your school.

Our climate change team consists of:

- The Headteacher (sustainability lead)
- The School Office Manager
- Teacher
- Teaching Assistant
- Site Manager
- Governor
- Parent
- Climate Ambassadors (pupil group)



Ethelbert Road is committed to continue with the following good practice already embedded into to the school

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
Curriculum			
1	Climate education and green careers	We have a whole school approach which incorporates climate change into the curriculum and school life	Headteacher
2	Climate education and green careers	We continue to seek out good practice to get inspired and share learning with other education settings on learning about climate change	Headteacher
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, assemblies and the curriculum plan we encourage behaviour change by the children to help the environment	Headteacher
4	Climate education and green careers	The curriculum is designed to teach children about nature in their local area, for example different types of land and habitats, how they are managed, flora and fauna and weather patterns	Headteacher
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach children about how to reduce/eliminate single use plastics at home	Headteacher
Waste			
1	Decarbonisation	We continually work to minimise our paper use e.g through printers have a holding area (users box), reminders only to print when necessary, photocopier default to print on both sides	Office Manager
2	Decarbonisation	We have clear recycling systems in place: clear expectations on what can be recycled. Separate recycling bins, clearly ladled in each classroom and office. Recycling separated and pupils and staff educated about the value of resources	Site Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Second Hand Uniform is available free of charge at events such as New Parents Evening and at request through the school office. The Friends of Ethelbert Road have uniform for parents and what is left is taken to the Community Wardrobe	Office Manager Friends of Ethelbert Road
4	Decarbonisation	We have paperless communication with parent (however, paper copies are available at request)	Office Manager
5	Decarbonisation	Records management system in place to reduce the amount paper of information saved. We use network drives and the cloud	Office Manager

6	Decarbonisation	We recycle batteries	Site Manager
8	Biodiversity	Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils. Encourage community litter picks lend out litter pickers	Headteacher
Food			
1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single plastic and food waste	Office Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Crisp packets are collected and recycled separately	Office Manager
3	Climate education and green careers	Children are educated about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home	Headteacher
4	Climate education and green careers	Vegetarian options are promoted and the number of meat options are reduced. 2 vegetarian and one meat option daily	Office Manager
5	Biodiversity	Children grow food in the school garden which is used in cookery lessons	Teachers
6	Biodiversity	Children visit a local farm to see where food comes from and the journey it takes from farm to fork	Teachers
7	Climate education and green careers	Menu's are planned in advance to be appealing. The school works closely with the caterers	Office Manager
8	Climate education and green careers	Lunch time is carefully managed to reduce queuing time and to ensure there is enough time to eat and play, thus reducing food waste due to children rushing to get outside to play	Headteacher
9	Climate education and green careers	Meals are managed in a way which means children can make a selection at the servery. This ensures they eat what they like and reduces waste	Headteacher/Office Manager
Air Quality			
1	Climate education and green careers	Children are encouraged to come to school on foot, bike, scooter to reduce pollution near school. There is a bike and scooter park to keep bikes and scooters safe during the school day	Headteacher
2	Climate education and green careers	Outside the school there are anti idling signs. The Headteacher regularly reminds families in person, or via the newsletter to turn off car engines	KCC/Headteacher/Office Manager
3	Biodiversity	The small front garden has a range of plants and trees, as well as a bug hotel to attract insects	Teachers
4	Climate education and green careers	Children are educated about air pollution and how they can reduce their own exposure to pollution and how they can reduce their contribution to it	Teachers
5	Climate education and green careers	Children take part in science activities to monitor air quality levels	Teachers

6	Adaption and resilience	Air monitors are used within the classrooms to indicate good air quality	Teachers
7	Adaption and resilience	The school windows have been replaced to ensure there is appropriate air flow, improving children's health and reducing their exposure to pollution	Headteacher
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	Children and families are encouraged to walk to school. A scooter and bike park is available	Headteacher
2	Decarbonisation	Bikeability training is offered to Year 6 children	Office Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Children in upper Key Stage 2 walk to and from school in order to prepare for independence and to reduce pollution	Headteacher
4	Decarbonisation	School trips are planned with taking the train where possible to reduce the use of minibuses or coaches	Teachers
5	Decarbonisation	Outside the school there are anti idling signs. The Headteacher regularly reminds families in person, or via the newsletter to turn off car engines	KCC/Headteacher
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Poster in each room reminding children and staff to turn off the lights	Headteacher
2	Decarbonisation	Energy costs monitored monthly and concerns investigated	Headteacher/Finance Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers are used to monitor temperature levels. 18C -20C for parts of the building where there is a normal level of activity, such as the classrooms and offices and 15C for corridors and toilets	Headteacher
4	Decarbonisation	Energy efficient lighting have been fitted in all rooms.	Headteacher
5	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on to ensure maximum efficiency	Headteacher
6	Decarbonisation	All corridor and KS2 toilets lights are set on timers to reduce usage. Energy efficient lighting has been fitted across the school.	Site Manager
7	Decarbonisation	Secondary glazing has been added to sash windows in the main entrance to reduce drafts	Site Manager

Outdoor Space			
1	Biodiversity	Our green space is utilised well at the front of the school. We use the garden for outdoor learning and growing vegetables and plants which the children use in their DT lessons	Site Manager
2	Biodiversity	The trees, plants and shrubs at the front of the school capture more carbon with natural solutions	Site Manager
3	Biodiversity	Bird feeders, house, bug hotel support wildlife	Headteacher
4	Climate education and green careers	Each class and our gardening club look after our green space	Teachers
5	Climate education and green careers	Gardening club is offered throughout the year	Teaching Assistant
6	Biodiversity	We have a wild area within the garden	Site Manager
7	Biodiversity	Where possible we do not use chemicals within our outdoor spaces.	Site Manager
8	Climate education and green careers	We have opportunities to visit a local farm to learn about food production and farming	
Water			
1	Climate education and green careers	Curriculum plans include learning about local water scarcity and hazard risks to encourage a culture of saving, rather than wasting water and to encourage creative ideas for how water can be saved at school.	Headteacher
2	Adaption and Resilience	A water butt is used to collect rain water to be used to water our plants.	Site Manager
Procurement			
1	Decarbonation	Recourses are brought in specific points within the school year ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste	Office Manager
2	Decarbonation	The school purchases locally where possible to reduce travel emissions in the supple chain	Office Manager
3	Decarbonation	Recycled products are brought where possible	Office Manager

Action Plan 2024 - 2026

Action	DfE Link	Target/measure	Timescale	Responsibility	Evaluation/Impact
Curriculum					
To find creative ways to further embed sustainability into the curriculum, especially where it may usually be absent such as PE, art or History	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of curriculum links across subjects i.e. An art project showing impact on the environment	To be fully embedded by September 2026	Sustainability Leader Subject leaders	
Waste					
Identify ways to be more environmentally friendly and make significant changes in what we waste	Adaption and Resilience	Decrease in photocopying paper Decrease of used of worksheets and frames (KS1) Climate Ambassador to monitor waste in classrooms	To be fully embedded by September 2025		
Procurement					
To source eco-friendly resources and to recycle more	Decarbonation	Further develop the availability of pre loved uniform and costumes for event days	To be fully embedded by September 2025		

		Purchase eco-friendly alternative to whiteboard pens for the whole school (no more plastic waste)			
Outdoor Space					
To further develop and plan activities for the outdoor areas with meaningful links to the curriculum	Biodiversity Climate education and green careers	Classes to plan their part of the garden, ensuring they use the space for outdoor learning linked to the curriculum eg growing plants /food, wildlife	To be fully embedded by September 2025		