

Climate Action Plan

Kirkoswald CofE School

1 year plan Autumn 2025 – 2026

★ = high carbon reduction actions

Progress Key
Not Started
In Progress
Stalled
Complete



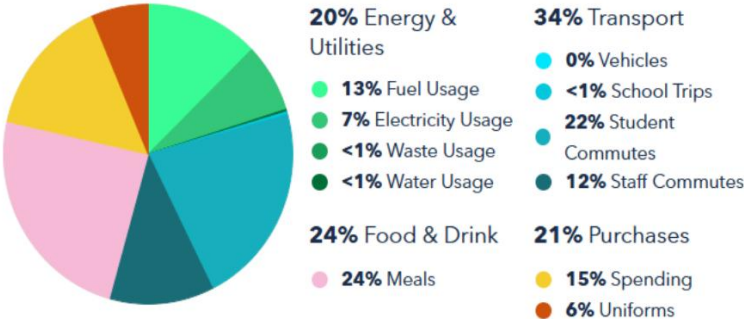
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Climate Action Plan history

Last reviewed:

Your school's carbon baseline: TBC t CO₂e Calculation: Month Year

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEP


ACTION	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon</p> <p>This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting and gives you a baseline against which to measure progress, year on year.</p> 	<p>Count Your Carbon is a free, full-scope carbon footprint calculator, built for - and in collaboration with - nurseries, schools and colleges. It supports educational settings to calculate, understand, reduce and track carbon emissions.</p> <p>Aligned with the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, Count Your Carbon offers tools and guidance to help educational settings calculate their carbon footprint, reviewing your data and producing a report which will equip you with the information you need to help inform your Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>Calculating your carbon footprint is a great first step on your decarbonisation journey. It will help you baseline your current emissions and set targets to reduce this over time. Let's Go Zero can help support you with understanding how to collect the data you need for the tool, so please reach out if you require further support.</p>	<p>Not started</p>

Overall projected carbon savings: TBC%

GET STARTED				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign By joining this campaign, your school confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all schools reach this goal by the end of the decade.	Start: Review:			Complete
Add sustainability plans, projects and successes to your school website and share through wider communications Celebrate your school's climate action on your website, in newsletters, social media, local press, and events to showcase your successes and involve the wider community. Use the Let's Go Zero comms pack to do this.	Start: Review:			
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead' and where possible provide PPA time for this role.	Start: Review:			

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient

ENERGY – BUILDINGS AND RETROFIT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Install a smart meter Contact your energy and/or water supplier to get a smart meter installed. This is an important first step to get data to track consumption and is needed before you can sign up to energy usage analytics platforms, e.g. Energy Sparks .	Start: Review:			
 Optimise your BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set 18°C is the general recommendation for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43°C (stored at 60°C). Experiment with your heating schedule while maintaining comfort - running it one hour less per day or reducing temperatures by 1 degree can cut annual heating costs by 5–10%, according to the DfE .	Start: Review:			
Commission an energy audit or heat decarbonisation plan This is a top recommendation for schools who are looking to invest in infrastructure changes to reduce energy costs and will help you to identify and prioritise the next steps with energy retrofit options and measurements for your school.	Start: Review:		Council currently working on this plan after audit	

ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Incentivise students to address energy usage Proactively engage and empower the student body to take a lead in promoting and implementing energy efficient behaviour changes to help save costs, reduce emissions, and make their setting more sustainable. Incentivise engagement through inter-class competitions and/or eco awards, or by electing school energy champions. LASER Energy have a School Energy Action Hub filled with free energy-saving resources for primary and secondary school pupils.	Start: Review:			
Take part in a switch off campaign Take part in a switch off campaign, e.g. Switch Off Fortnight . Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools). Running campaigns before the holiday period (such as a summer switch-down) can lead to reduced energy use over the holiday period.	Start: Review:			
Monitor energy use on a regular basis through dedicated platforms Use an energy monitoring platform (e.g. Energy Sparks) to visualise and understand your energy usage. Use the data to look for patterns in day-to-day energy consumption and assess your energy baseload (how much energy you use continually). Armed with this information, you can decide where and when is best to target energy savings. If you are already sending your energy data to your provider, get in touch with them and ask them for access.	Start: Review:			

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Weigh food waste from kitchen and plates, share results, and set a target to reduce this</p> <p>Get your students involved in daily weigh-ins of food waste as part of their curriculum or eco-club activities to enhance their understanding of the scale of food wastage. Feed findings back to your school caterer and catering staff to make necessary changes to dishes/menu. Sharing the results with teaching staff, pupils and the wider school community can motivate everyone to reduce their food waste even further.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>		<p>Ask catering provider what they do with the food waste and can the weight be passed on to monitor by students.</p>	

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Provide students with education on the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling correctly</p> <p>Teach students about the waste hierarchy: 'Reduce -> Reuse -> Recycle' through a variety of assemblies, workshops and initiatives. These could be run by your eco-team, local authority, or waste contractor. Teach how recyclables are processed and the importance of reducing single-use and supporting a circular economy. Organisations such as Wastebuster and Recycle Now have a variety of curriculum-linked resources. Your CAA can provide additional resources on request.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>			
<p>Take part in additional recycling schemes</p> <p>Take part in additional recycling schemes for items that cannot be recycled in regular waste collections. Some schemes can even generate income or green points. For example; Empties Please (ink cartridges); Recycle to Read:(toys, batteries and textiles); Bag2School and Little Recyclers (textiles); Eddings (pens).</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>			

PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>★ Develop your uniform exchange and extend existing reuse practices.</p> <p>Evaluate your uniform exchange to track how many items are being re-used, and set a target/take steps to increase its uptake e.g. improved communications to the wider school community and putting systems in place to receive uniform donations from school leavers. Make sure to include PE kit too!</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>		<p>Adding a laminated sheet for parents to tally when they take clothing will allow for tracking of items through the swap shop and celebrate the financial and carbon savings at the end of each term.</p>	In Progress
<p>Develop a Sustainable Procurement policy</p> <p>A Sustainable Procurement Policy is a document that outlines your school or MAT's commitment to purchasing in a way that is both sustainable and ethical. You can find some further advice and links on creating a sustainable procurement policy here.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>			

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Run active travel campaigns Participate in annual Active Travel Campaigns. Your CAA can provide a list of different options (including Living Streets' Wow campaign and Sustrans' Big Walk and Wheel). Aim for these events to trigger a permanent shift to sustainable travel from students who live locally enough to do so. Facilitate walking and cycling to school by establishing Park & Stride or Walking Bus initiatives. Ask the PTA or engaged parents to support with these.	Start: Review:			

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages

WATER				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Install water butts to harvest rainwater Capture rainwater to use on plants and grounds around school – and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours whilst saving mains water.	Start: Review:			

3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond

NATURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Take part in The Nature Park</p> <p>The Nature Park aims to embed nature-based learning into the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>			
<p>Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. add a pond, plant pollinator-friendly plants, put up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels'</p> <p>Develop your outdoor spaces to create a mosaic of habitats and features to provide food, shelter and water for wildlife. Grant funding is often available for this, and make use of the wider community for support and resources.</p> <p>If sufficient funding, this increase in biodiversity could also be used to create an accessible outdoor spaces that enable students to connect with nature</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>		<p>Outdoor area on bank that could be developed.</p> <p>Funding opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ OVO Foundation Nature Prize ○ Nineveh Charitable Trust ○ Branching Out Fund - The Tree Council ○ Finding funding Education Nature Park 	

4. Climate Education, Green Skills and Green Careers

Ensuring the education you provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that your teaching staff feel supported to offer this

CULTURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Publicise your commitment to sustainability Include a commitment to sustainability in your school's public communication, e.g. declaring a climate emergency and intentions of going Net Zero. This could be via a values statement, a declaration of Net Zero aspirations, or inclusion in the school vision.	Start: Review:			
Set up an Eco Club or Eco Council for pupils to lead on sustainability initiatives Establish a student Eco-Club or Eco Council. Consider inclusivity and longevity of projects so that as many students as possible can take part throughout their time at school. Some useful resources for this could be found here: Climate Change Club in a Box YoungClimateWarriors	Start: Review:			In Progress
Set up a sustainability award for students or classes Create an Eco Award as part of the Eco Club's work, either as an end of year celebration or a weekly/half termly award e.g. for the class who do the most recycling/turn off lights and screens most consistently.	Start: Review:			

CURRICULUM

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Amend your curriculum to incorporate sustainability</p> <p>Amend your curriculum to include stronger links to climate change and sustainability. This could be a total refresh, a bit of tweaking, drop down days or simply adding extra assemblies. Teach the Future, Royal Meteorological Society (Curriculum for Climate Literacy) and the MoEE have amazing resources on how to weave sustainability throughout your curriculum.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>			

GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Access existing local and regional authority programmes to boost green skills</p> <p>Contact your local authority sustainability team and education business partnership, who can support staff and pupils to be involved in local and regional green skills programmes.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>		<p>Using local landowners outdoor space and teaching students how to use this space effectively.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>



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