



St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

Climate Action Plan

January 2025

Contents

What do we already do? 3

What can we do next? 4

Climate action plan – what do we already do?

- Signed up to Education Nature Park January 2025
- Suitably relaxed dress code in periods of hot weather
- Bikeability in Year 3
- Bike/scooter storage
- Single-use plastics banned in school lunch hall
- Food waste reduction – children select what they will eat
- Solar panels KS2 building
- CO2 monitors in every classroom
- Heating on and off at set times
- Sensor lighting

Climate action plan – what can we do next?

As part of the Department for Education's (DfE) requirements, our plan includes at least one action from these four key areas:

1. Decarbonisation
2. Biodiversity
3. Adaptation and resilience
4. Climate education and green careers goals

Goal	Action	Steps	Timeline	Resources
Decarbonisation	Change behaviours in our communities by running a 'Switch-off' campaign.	<p>Encourage students and staff to turn off lights and computers at every given opportunity but particularly end of day.</p> <p>Provide information to parents/carers in newsletters.</p>	1 month	<p>Staff: Sustainability lead, All teaching staff, SLT</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>
	Retrofit our KS1 buildings to produce/ reduce energy consumption by installing air source heat pump.	Remove gas boilers and replace with heat pumps.	Over 1 year	<p>Staff: Business manager, Site manager, SLT, energy installation company</p> <p>Cost: High</p>

<p>Establishing our baseline</p>	<p>Understand our school's carbon footprint by identifying where our emissions come from.</p>	<p>Use an online tool such as Keep Britain Tidy's to get a breakdown of carbon emissions.</p>	<p>1 month</p>	<p>Staff: Site manager, Business manager, Sustainability lead, SLT</p> <p>Cost: Free if using resources provided</p> <p>Count Your Carbon - Eco Schools (eco-schools.org.uk)</p> <p>Energy-walkabout-guide Guide.pdf (southwarkclimatecollective.co.uk)</p>
	<p>Understand our school's energy efficiency by conducting a review of energy use.</p>	<p>Review the Recommendation Report from Display Energy Certificate [DEC] to understand the schools' energy efficiency.</p>	<p>1 month</p>	<p>Staff: Site manager, Business manager, SLT</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>

	Understand our curriculum by reviewing for climate change content.	Review curriculum to understand where climate change/careers features/could feature.	1 month	Staff: Sustainability lead, Cost: Free
Biodiversity	Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by creating a wellbeing garden in the KS2 playground	Locate an area to garden. Work with a design team to create and build the garden area. Grow plants and get students involved in maintenance/planting/designing e.g. eco club	6 months	Staff: Sustainability lead, SLT, design team Cost: Free (with funding from Public Health etc)
Resilience and adaptation	Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing sail shading.	Locate suitable positioning for solar shading. Purchase sail shading. Install grounds shade: sail	3 months	Staff: SLT, Business manager, Shade Company Cost: Moderate

		<p>Train staff how to use and maintain.</p> <p>Encourage pupils to use during periods of hot weather.</p>		
Climate education and green careers	Share with staff and pupils what climate change action we are taking by promoting successes and achievements.	<p>Assemblies, newsletters.</p> <p>Get students involved e.g. with planting or maintaining.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Staff: Sustainability lead, all teaching staff, SLT</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>
	Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by incorporating it in more lessons.	<p>Get lead staff on board early.</p> <p>Use resources with information on how to embed.</p> <p>Embed climate change in other lessons.</p> <p>Review impact.</p>	6 months	<p>Staff: Sustainability lead, Subject leads, SLT</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>

<p>Active and sustainable travel</p>	<p>Encourage active travel by launching active travel scheme for pupils.</p>	<p>Re-enrol the school with Living Streets Travel Tracker. Relaunch assembly. Train staff on how to encourage participation with Travel Tracker. Launch banner design competition with children to increase engagement by promoting outside school. Sign up to ModeShift Stars to creating a Travel Plan.</p>	<p>1 month</p>	<p>Staff: Sustainability lead, Ed Wicks (Living Streets) Cost: Free to sign up, low cost to produce banner</p>
<p>Air quality</p>	<p>Reduce risks of air pollution to children.</p>	<p>Create clean air action plan.</p>	<p>2 months</p>	<p>Staff: Site manager, Business manager, Sustainability lead, SLT Cost: free The Clean Air for Schools Framework Action for clean air Schools</p>

Waste, consumption and recycling	Encourage reuse by running second-hand uniform event at the end of the school year	Run a uniform event at school for second hand uniform exchange and purchase.	in 5 months (end of year)	Staff: Sustainability lead, SLT Cost: Free
Food	Improve energy efficiency of school by assessing kitchen energy use.	Talk with our kitchen staff/catering team. Review efficiency of school kitchen.	2 months - ongoing	Staff: Business manager, site manager, kitchen staff Cost: Free