

WREN'S NEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Key School Policy 2026-2027



Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan
and Policy
September 2026

Document to be read in conjunction with ***other key school policies (listed within document)***

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN



Wren's Nest Primary School's

2026



2027



"We are the first generation to feel the effect of climate change and the last generation who can do something about it." Sir David Attenborough

Our climate change team consists of:

- **Science Lead (Sustainability Lead) - Melissa Wyer**
- **Headteacher: Sarah Parkes**
- **The School Business Managers - Tracey Parsons & Michelle Wilkes (Office Manager)**
- **Site Manager - Karolina Hinc**
- **Site Assistant Manager - Matt Ferguson**
- **Pupil Parliament - Global Environment Minister, Community Minister, Learning Environment Minister, Science Minister**
- **Curriculum Team**
- **Senior Leadership Team**
- **Teaching Staff**

The plan is split into two sections:

- **Section 1: Commitment to continue with the actions we are already taking**
- **Section 2: Action Plan for change**

Educating the next generation not only about caring for the environment, but also about how they can actively shape their communities and the world they will grow up in.

Wren's Nest Primary School commits to continue with the following actions:

Embedded Practice

Embedded Practice	DfE Link	Embedded 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 (through Science, Pupil Parliament and assemblies).	Science Lead SLT
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 (Staff Meetings/INSET Days).	Science Lead SLT
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, assemblies and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the students to help the environment.	Science Lead/SLT
4	Climate education and green careers	The Curriculum at Wren's Nest is designed to teach young people about nature in their local area, for example different types of land and habitats, how they are managed, flora and fauna and weather patterns (Geography, Science).	Science Lead/SLT/Teaching staff
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home.	Science Lead/Teaching staff
6	Climate education and green careers	Woodland Trust Green Tree Schools Award - Achieved the Bronze Award - September 2024 The Green Tree Schools Award encourages outdoor learning and inspires pupils about trees, woods and wildlife.	Science Lead/Teaching staff

Waste			
1	Decarbonisation	At Wren's Nest we continually work to minimise our paper use e.g. through 'Paper Cut' printing, with reminders to only print when necessary and the cost.	Business Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Clear recycling systems in place: clear expectations on what can be recycled. Separate recycling bins, clearly labelled. Recycling separated and pupils and staff educated about the value of resources. Food waste, paper, plastic bins.	Site Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Pre-Loved uniform shop available to families. Recycled toys and gifts donated to school for the Christmas Fayre.	Business Manager/Pastoral Team - SLT
4	Decarbonisation	Most of the communication with families is paperless (Parent Hub App, school website, school mobile, weekly videos).	Business Manager/SLT
5	Decarbonisation	Records Management system in place to reduce the amount of information saved on network drives and on the cloud- shared areas, personal hard drives, iCloud, Google Drive, part of the RM infrastructure.	Business Manager
6	Biodiversity	Food waste separated by kitchen and collected then converted to energy through the company Veolia.	Site Manager/ Business Manager
7	Biodiversity	Regular litter picks completed around school site by caretakers and Pupil Parliament.	Business Manager Site Manager Science Lead/Pupil Parliament Lead
8	Decarbonisation	Food Banks, clothing and other items regularly donated to by families, staff and Beauty Banks charity.	Business Manager, Science Lead/Pupil Parliament Lead/Pastoral Team
9	Decarbonisation	. Encourage students and staff to recycle batteries. Recycle Old Batteries Bin at school for staff and parents to use - reminder to families and staff	Business Manager

10	Decarbonisation	Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, batteries etc.) Additional recycling stations at school Items in school - food waste, plastics	Business Manager/Site Manager/Science Lead
11	Decarbonisation	Provide families and staff with the opportunity to recycle clothing, therefore reducing waste and making money for the school. Sign up to Bags to School initiative 	Pupil Parliament/Science Lead/Site Team

Food

1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste. This is also followed by the teaching staff who are not to use single use plastic within their classroom, for example, plastic knives and forks when cooking, instead using reusable utensils.	Business Manager/Teaching Staff
2	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 (through assemblies, Pupil Parliament, various curriculum subjects).	Science Lead/Teaching Staff
3	Climate education and green careers	Vegetarian options are available daily. Cheese and margarine is vegan.	Business Manager
4	Climate Education	PUPIL PARLIAMENT FOOD WASTE INITIATIVE Pupil Parliament Initiative - to reduce food waste and to encourage children to eat	Business Manager/Pupil

	and Green Careers	their vegetables. (From 1st April 2025 food waste cannot be disposed of in the skip, instead it needs to be in a food waste bin. This will add a cost of £1000 on top of the current cost for food waste collection). Reward system in place Reduction in food waste, increase in recycling, healthier habits created for children. Food Waste collection bill decreases.	Parliament Lead/Science Lead
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	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
4	Climate education and green careers	Menus are planned in advance to be appealing to reduce waste, they are discussed beforehand with Pupil Parliament.	Business Manager/Pupil Parliament
5	Climate education and green careers	Lunch time is managed to reduce queuing time and to ensure all pupils are given enough time to eat and time to play, to reduce food waste, due to pupils feeling they do not have enough time to eat.	Business Manager
6	Climate education and green careers	Meals are managed in a way which means pupils can make a selection at the counter - ensuring they are choosing something they want to eat, alongside reducing wastage of over cooking through pre-orders. Sandwiches are ordered and made on the day to reduce food waste.	Business 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. Supported further during 'Walk to School' Week.	Business Manager/Pastoral Team/SLT
2	Biodiversity	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality.	Business Manager/Site Manager
3	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 (assemblies, Science, Geography).	Science Lead/Teaching Staff/SLT
4	Adaptation and resilience	Window maintenance plan in place to help air circulate better, improving student health and reducing their exposure to air pollution. E.g. light wells.	Business Manager
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	'Walk to School Week' celebrated annually to encourage children to walk to school to reduce their carbon footprint.	Science Lead/Curriculum Team
2	Decarbonisation	Bikes/scooters children travel to school on can be stored at the back of the school entrance.	Business Manager

3	Decarbonisation	Families of pupils in upper Key Stage 2 are encouraged to allow their children to be responsible for getting themselves to and from school - walking to school.	Business Manager/SLT
4	Climate Education and Green Careers	Encourage children to choose walking and cycling routes to school that are safer, and with less traffic and pollution - Walk to School Week annually, children are allowed to store scooters at the back door, UKS2 children encouraged to walk to school by being allowed to walk home/to school unsupervised	Business Manager/Curriculum Team/SLT
5	Decarbonisation	Reducing travel emissions on school trips - Consider transport modes for trips. Encourage staff to book places local to the school so the children can walk there. Add to trips check list. This reduces emissions and reduces costs.	Business Manager/Teaching Staff/SLT
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use. Posters are around school as a reminder. Staff are encouraged to turn off projectors and screens when not in use during certain periods of the day. All switches are off over the weekend and holidays. Encouraged to switch off all electrical equipment at the end of each day.	Business Manager/Pupil Parliament
2	Decarbonisation	Energy costs are monitored monthly and concerns investigated -to ensure reduction in energy, particularly when building not in use. Site Manager monitors energy costs.	Business Manager/Site Manager

3	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers are used to monitor temperature levels, for heating purposes we maintain the following temperature levels: • 18°C-20°C for parts of the building where there is a normal level of activity, such as classrooms and offices • 18 for corridors, halls, toilets and circulation areas	Site Manager
4	Decarbonisation	144 Solar Panels are on the school roof. This electricity produced is returned to the grid therefore saving energy costs.	Business Manager/Site Manager

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
5	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	Site Manager
6	Decarbonisation	All corridors, cloakrooms and toilet lights are set on timers/movement sensors to reduce usage. LED lighting installed across the site.	Business Manager
7	Decarbonisation	Use and refer regularly to the ESCC Energy Team energy checklist and Energy Saving Guide. Energy Certificate on display by school office.	Site Manager/Business Manager
Outdoor Space			
1	Biodiversity	Green spaces utilised well across the school including regular outdoor learning.	Science Lead/Teaching Staff
2	Biodiversity	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school perimeter to capture more carbon with natural solutions.	Site Manager/Science Lead
3	Biodiversity	Birdbaths, feeders, bird houses, bug hotels, bee hotels, ponds all installed to support local wildlife.	Science Lead
4	Climate education and green careers	Children are involved in looking after our green spaces, particularly the Outdoor Scientific Learning Environment.	Science Lead/Teaching Staff
5	Biodiversity	We do not use any chemicals within our outside space to help wildlife.	Business Manager/Site Manager
Water			
1	Climate education and green careers	Curriculum plans include learning about hazard risks around water and ways to encourage a culture of saving, rather than wasting water.	Science Lead/Teaching Staff/Curriculum Team/SLT
2	Climate education and	Staff and children encouraged to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups and encouraged to pour leftover water on to the plants. Therefore less disposables	Business Manager/All Staff

	green careers	are being used and leftover water being reused.	
3	Adaptation and Resilience	Taps in bathrooms are sensor powered/push powered to avoid taps being left on.	Business Manager/Site Manager
4	Adaptation and Resilience	All sinks have access to plugs and staff are encouraged to not wash up under a running tap.	Site Manager
5	Decarbonisation	Encourage students and staff to recycle batteries - Recycle Old Batteries Bin at school for staff and parents to use - reminder to families and staff	Business Manager
6	Decarbonisation	Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, batteries etc.) Additional recycling stations at school Items in school - food waste, plastics	Business Manager/Site Manager/Science Lead
7	Decarbonisation	Provide families and staff with the opportunity to recycle clothing, therefore reducing waste and making money for the school. Sign up to Bags to School initiative every year. 	Pupil Parliament/Science Lead/Site Team

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
Procurement			
1	Decarbonisation	Resources are bought with a 'just in time' mindset ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste.	Business Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Consideration is given to travel emissions in the supply chain and where possible local suppliers are used	Business Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Energy certificate - proof of monitoring carbon. Dudley Climate Action	Business Manager/Site Manager

Action Plan for Change

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
Curriculum					
1. To continue to increase integration of climate change into all subjects. Find creative ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum, especially in subjects where it may usually be absent such as PE, Art or History.	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of curriculum links across subjects. Clear evidence of subject integration and regular learning of climate change	To be fully embedded by 2027	Science Lead/Curriculum Team/SLT/Teaching staff	
2. To continue to promote green careers to pupils.	Climate education and green careers	Ensuring at least 2 x green careers are mentioned during Economics/assemblies related/science curriculum	To be fully embedded by 2027	Science Lead/Curriculum Team/SLT	
Waste					
1. Recycling ink cartridges	Decarbonisation	Ink Cartridges to be recycled via 'Takeback For Schools' to ensure that we are reducing waste further	To be fully embedded by 2027	Business Lead	