



Springhill Catholic Primary School

Together, we will do our best for Jesus.

Climate Action Plan 2025 - 2028

Sustainability Team

Sustainability Lead:	Roxy Ashworth	Head Teacher
Sustainability Team:	Naomi Cross/Katie Geiser Catherine Webb Neil Moreley Vicky Inch	Eco Committee/School Council Lead Maintenance Officer Caretaker Business Manager

Decarbonisation

Overall aim: to reduce emissions and support children to be part of the transition to net zero

Action already taken:

- LED lighting through the school – this is being replaced in stages
- Walk to School week
- Eco-committee in place
- Daily travel tracker and weekly award for the class with the highest proportion of children who walk / cycle / scooter to school
- Recycle bins in classrooms and food bins in hall
- Some use of cloud storage
- Working towards paperless communication
- Heating on for restricted periods only (Nov – March)

Action	Responsibility	Information and/or resources required	Target / Outcome
Sign up to Climate Friendly Schools for FREE and use their Energy Audit tool - https://www.climatefriendlyschools.org.uk/theme/climate-friendly-energy-audit/	HT	DfE: Good estates management for schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase energy-efficiency of the school site • Increase use of renewable energy sources on the school site • Create a positive culture and influence behaviour change around reducing energy use, transport use and living more sustainably (reduce, reuse, recycle) • Encourage journeys taken by walking, cycling and public transport
Further improve the energy efficiency of the school site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All lights off when a room is not in use • Turn off monitors when not in use • Turn of plug sockets when not in use • Replace faulty double glazing panels • Review use of paper towels in toilets – are hand driers a more sustainable option? 	Eco-committee Posters as reminders CW	Climate Friendly Schools for FREE and use their Energy Audit tool - https://www.climatefriendlyschools.org.uk/theme/climate-friendly-energy-audit/	

Room thermometers so that heating can be better monitored and managed and windows are only opened once rooms are at temperature	CW and teachers
Encourage the use of re-usable water bottles and stop the use of single use	Eco-committee
Reduce down, and eliminate as soon as possible the use of single-use cups / plates / cutlery at school events	All
Recycle bins to be used throughout school	CW
Resources to be bulk purchased to reduce number of deliveries	SBM
Explore the installation of solar panels and a renewable heat source to replace the current oil-fuelled heating system	CW
Better use of the local area as an alternative to trips and visits which require transport, and review residential visits, giving consideration to travel requirements	SLT
Paperless communication and continue to reduce printing	All
Upgrade IT systems and devices to improve efficiency and make better use of cloud storage and “virtual classroom” spaces to reduce printing	SBM/IT company
Annual travel survey and travel tracker to be introduced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage carbon-free travel • Work with parents/carers to encourage car-pooling, park and stride where travel by car is unavoidable 	NC

Recommendation Report
from your Display Energy
Certificate [DEC]

BBC Pollution levels tool -
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-42566393>

Adaptation and Resilience

Overall aim: to adapt the building and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change and minimise the risk of school closure / disruption, and to protect staff and children from the risks of extreme weather

Action already taken:

- Emergency plan and evacuation procedures in place
- H&S monitoring
- Remote learning policy and plan in place
- Pre-loved uniform available
- Sun safety is part of the Personal Development curriculum
- Some use of cloud storage
- Working towards paperless communication

Action	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Information and/or resources required	Target / Outcome
As part of the building plan annual survey, ensure the school building is prepared for more extreme weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building plan to set out priorities to ensure that the school building is managed efficiently, increasingly sustainably, and can cope with more extreme weather 	CW and governors	DfE: Good estates management for schools UK Gov Flood Risk Map - https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the risk of school closures and disruption to exams and lessons • Protect staff and students from the risks of extreme weather • Ensure the school site can cope with more extreme weather
Review emergency plan and evacuation procedures annually, ensuring sufficient planning and provision for the impact of climate change of more extreme weather	CW and governors		
Ensure provision for broader extreme weathers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate insulation • Well managed drainage systems to avoid flooding • Sun shelter for children • Provision / plan for keeping cool in extreme heat 	SLT		
Recycle bins to be used throughout school	All		

Biodiversity

Overall aim: to enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access to, and connection with, nature

Action already taken:

- Outdoor learning/forest space
- Adults dropping off and picking up children are asked to walk to school or park and stride to reduce the number of cars coming to school
- Daily travel tracker and weekly award for the class with the highest proportion of children who walk / cycle / scooter to school months
- Litter picking around school
- Air quality monitors in school playground
- Opportunities for planting – each class
- Spring / Summer Term gardening club
- Planting around fences by roads to improve air quality

Action	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Information and/or resources required	Target / Outcome
Outdoor learning area so that children can engage in learning time outdoors and can grow plants, fruit and vegetables	RA	Sign up to Education Nature Park https://www.educationnaturepark.org.uk/user/register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance green space on the school site • The school outdoor spaces are well maintained and cared for • Purposeful learning can take place in the outdoor spaces • Children and staff enjoy a range of opportunities outdoor • Develop knowledge and skills relating to biodiversity and growing/gardening
Develop the school grounds more widely to incorporate plants, shrubs, herbs and trees	CW, NM		
Introduce composter bins for fruit waste from break time / lunch time	CW		
Continue litter picking alongside education to reduce the amount of litter not put into the bin	NM	Education Nature Park's tools for exploring your school site https://www.educationnaturepark.org.uk/resources/Explore%20Your%20School%20Site	
Make better use of the school's outdoor space for learning as part of the planned curriculum	RA		
Ensure air quality monitors are distributed around school, in the most used spaces	NC	Woodland Trust resources: Outdoor Learning Resources For Schools - Woodland Trust	
Improve air quality by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging carbon-free travel • Work with parents/carers to encourage car-pooling / park and stride where travel by car is unavoidable 	SLT	RSPB birdwatch https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/get-ready-for-big-schools-birdwatch	
After school provision to include opportunities relating to biodiversity / growing / gardening	CT		
Ensure opportunities for trips / visits / local experiences which focus on and promote biodiversity	SLT		

Waste and Consumption

Overall aim: to reduce the amount of waste produced on the school site

Action already taken:

- Recycle bins in classrooms
- Eco Committee includes eco action as part of their agenda
- Use of cloud storage and virtual classroom “spaces” to reduce printing

- Working towards paperless communication
- Pre-loved uniform available
- Bulk ordering of stationery, centralised to reduce waste

Action	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Information and/or resources required	Target / Outcome
Expand opportunities for re-using and recycling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling bins throughout school • Explore the opportunity for further separation of plastics / other recyclable materials • Encourage the use of re-usable water bottles and stop the use of single use • Reduce down, and eliminate as soon as possible the use of single-use cups / plates / cutlery at school events 	SLT Eco-committee	Plastic Free July's bin audit tool https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/bin-audit/ Sign up to Climate Friendly Schools for FREE and use their Food Audit tool https://www.climatefriendlyschools.org.uk/theme/climate-friendly-food-audit/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste produced on the school site • Influence behaviour changes and create a positive culture around reducing waste and overconsumption of resources • Develop knowledge around waste and resource overconsumption and how they link to the climate and ecological emergency
Eco committee to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track travel to school • Monitor recycling / lights / technology left on standby / water waste / single-use plastics • Work with kitchen staff to look at separation of food waste for composting and reduction of plastic waste Introduce class Eco Award	NC	Sign up to Climate Friendly Schools for FREE and use their Consumption Audit tool - https://www.climatefriendlyschools.org.uk/theme/climate-friendly-consumption-audit/	
Recycling of IT equipment and electronics managed well – audit, monitor, use of companies to safely dispose	SBM/CW		
Introduce water tubs to collect rainwater for watering plants	CW		
Introduce composter bins for fruit waste from break time / lunch time	CW		
Resources to be bulk purchased to avoid waste, and reduce the number of deliveries	Office		

Climate Education and Green Skills

Overall aim: to prepare children for a world impacted by climate change through education and practice

Action already taken:

- Regular assemblies focused on priorities within this plan
- Children are aware of simple actions already being taken to improve sustainability within school
- Eco-committee set up
- Opportunities for learning about climate change and sustainability within the curriculum
- Some opportunities for learning outdoors

Action	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Information and/or resources required	Target / Outcome
Through teaching across the curriculum, children know about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decarbonisation • climate change • sustainability • air quality • reduce, reuse, recycle 	Curriculum leads	Teach the Future Tracked Changes Project - https://www.teachthefuture.uk/tracked-changes-project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers embed climate education in their curriculum • Teachers are confident in teaching about climate change as an integral part of the curriculum • Parents/Carers and the wider community are supportive and proactive in supporting the school to be more sustainable • Children have strong knowledge and skills relating to climate change and climate justice • Children feel empowered, enabled and supported to take climate action as part of the school's culture
Support Eco-Committee to confidently lead change, drive actions and increase the knowledge and understanding of staff and children	NC		
Actions to improve the sustainability of our school are rewarded	All		
Assemblies, focus days, focus weeks are used to promote and highlight key issues and priorities within this plan	SLT/Curriculum Leads		
Provide information, advice and support to parents, which enables them to support the action of the school and their children	SLT		
Use pupil voice, staff voice, parent voice to evaluate understanding, impact of actions and plan next steps	SLT		
Support staff and children so that monitoring lights, temperature, items left on standby, recycling, waste, water waste, food waste is routine, proactive and contributes to whole school improvements	All		

Review of Progress and Impact

Review of Progress and Impact			
	January 2026	January 2027	January 2028
Decarbonisation	Eco committee have been working with Southampton City Council on reducing air pollution around the school. Recycle bins being used well and new food waste bins are now well embedded and children are using these well.		
Adaptation and Resilience	Emergency evacuation planned reviewed and staff trained – Jan 2026.		
Biodiversity	Litter picking happens often around school. Hedging planted around fence last summer and looking to plant this around other parts of the fences.		
Waste and Consumption	Food waste bins are well embedded and are being used very well by the children.		
Climate Education and Green Skills	Eco-committee plan a day each year where children focus on the environment e.g. Earth Day. Eco-committee are ensuring classrooms turn their lights off when they are not in the class. This is going well.		