



Climate action plan

The DfE's guidance '[Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education](#)' has highlighted the importance of adopting a whole-school approach to turn planning into action. In its [sustainability and climate change strategy](#), the DfE stated that it expects all schools to have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan by 2025.

A climate action plan should cover the following four areas and be aligned with the DfE's sustainability and climate change strategy:

- Decarbonisation, e.g. calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions
- Adaptation and resilience, e.g. taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating
- Biodiversity, e.g. engaging with the [National Education Nature Park and enrolling in the Climate Action Award](#)
- Climate education and green careers, e.g. ensuring that education gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change and that teachers feel supported to offer this.

Climate action plan

Name of school	St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School
Sustainability lead name	Lorraine Melling
Date of last review	December 2024

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Organising the sustainability leadership team structure					
Has a sustainability leadership team been structured?	Partially (SLT)	19/12/24	Establish team and allocate roles	GOB/LM/PH/MS/KM	
Has a single sustainability lead been nominated?	Yes	19/12/24		LM	
Are members of the sustainability leadership team clear on their duties?	Partially	19/12/24	Establish Team Duties	GOB/LM/PH/MS/KM	
Does the sustainability leadership team consist of both teaching and operational staff?	Yes	19/12/24		Teachers (SLT), Admin and Caretaker	

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Does the sustainability leadership team include senior leaders?	Yes	19/12/24		GOB/LM/PH	
Implementing a whole-school approach					
Is the whole school involved and engaged in turning the school's climate plan into action?	Partially	19/12/24	Link Climate action plan with Live Simply Eco Ambassadors established	SLT – Assembly/ lessons	See GMCA website Clean air plans
Does the curriculum increase pupils' practical knowledge of sustainability and climate change?	Partially	19/12/24	Continue to build on previous work from live simply.	All Staff	Staff to highlight and sustainability climate change learning opportunities
Are measures in place to give pupils a sense of agency where anxiety stems from climate concerns?	Partially	19/12/24	Staff Training	All Staff (Staff Meeting time)	Contact: climateresponse@wigan.gov.uk
Does the curriculum enable pupils to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with the local community?	Yes	Dec 2024	Continue to build on community links established for Live Simply Encourage pupils to reduce single use plastics at home	All staff	
Are parents and the wider community involved in the school's approach to sustainability and climate change?	Partially	Dec 2024	Publish further information for parents see Website	SLT	Information added to website and newsletter

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Do governors and members of the SLT support and drive the school's sustainable activity?	Partially	November 2024	Governors have received training and advice ensure messages shared at FGB	SLT	
Is the SLT embedding culture change where sustainability is a priority?	Yes	Dec 2024		SLT	
Does climate change and sustainability feature on the agenda at key meetings?	Partially	Dec 2024	Add as specific item to agenda Gov/staff meetings	SLT/GOV	
Has the site manager been involved in the school's Climate Action Plan?	Yes	Dec 2024			
Climate education					
Is climate education embedded throughout the curriculum?	Partially	Dec 2024	Continue to build in opportunities to embed climate in all curriculum areas as appropriate	All Staff/Coordinators	
Are pupils eager to create a greener, sustainable world and tackle the causes and impact of climate change?	Yes	Dec 2024			
Are pupils empowered to become global citizens through a better understanding of climate change and a greater connection to nature.	Partially	Dec 2024	Continue to build on the work of Live Simply to empower students	All Staff	

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Are pupils provided with practical opportunities to participate in activities that increase climate resilience, reduce carbon impact and enhance biodiversity?	Partially	Dec 2024	Team to establish key areas for development and identify practical opportunities	Climate Team	
Do pupils learn about nature, the causes and impacts of climate change and the importance of sustainability?	Yes	Dec 24	Build on the opportunities for learning through all curriculum areas	All staff	Currently through Geography and PHSE and English
[EYFS only] Are children provided with opportunities to develop an understanding of the world and the natural environment?	Yes	Dec 24		EYFS team	UW: outdoor learning
Are teachers able to access CPD to ensure pupils receive high-quality teaching on scientific facts about climate change and environmental degradation?	Partially	Dec 2024	Team to engage staff in CPD	All Staff	Climateresponse@wigan.gov.uk nationalcollege.com
Do staff members make use of best practice advice which demonstrates how sustainability and climate change should be incorporated into teaching in an appropriate age manner?	Partially	Dec 2024	Team to engage staff in CPD	All Staff	Climateresponse@wigan.gov.uk nationalcollege.com
Are relevant teaching resources from governmental departments utilised? e.g. from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), and the Environment Agency?	Partially	Dec 2024	Team to investigate and share resources with staff See: pshe-association.org.uk/environment-agency	SLT	Establish file on shared drive linked to climate/sustainability

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Are teachers able to model sustainable practices in relation to their subject specialism?	Partially	Dec 2024	All staff to access CPD	SLT	CPD: climateresponse@wigan.gov.uk
Are all staff members able to build their understanding of climate change and sustainability by receiving shared literacy training through sustainability leads?	Partially	Dec 2024	All staff to access CPD	SLT	All staff to engage in CPD
Does the school offer extra curricula activities such as eco clubs or vegetable growing?	Yes	Dec 24	Continue to build on Live Simply growing project and eco ambassadors	All classes /gardening club	
Are pupils given the opportunity to learn about sustainable food choices, recycling, adaptation projects or weather and energy monitoring?	Yes	Dec 24		All Staff	Live Simply/ PSHE/Geography
Are pupils given opportunities to learn outdoors?	Yes	Dec 24	Continue to offer/ develop outdoor learning opportunities	All Staff	Science/Geog leads to support with resources/ideas
Are leaders, teachers and pupils able to learn about energy efficiency, the circular economy, climate resilience and green careers?	Partially	Dec 24	Investigating opportunities for learning link to career options Green careers: everything you need to know - BBC Bitesize Green Careers	All Staff	Geography & Science KS2

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Does the school avoid presenting misinformation or unsubstantiated claims relating to the climate?	Partially	Dec 24	Staff to access training to prevent misinformation What is climate change and is it really a hoax? - BBC Bitesize	All Staff	
Green skills and careers					
Are pupils able to build green skills that will enable them to build careers and participate in the green industrial revolution?	Partially	December	Share information related to Green skills with all staff and provide CPD to aid planning for learning	All Staff	
Does the school provide assembly information and interactive class exercises which enable pupils to see and learn about a wide range of green careers and skills in action?	Partially		Further develop opportunities for sharing information on green careers	All Staff	
Education estate and digital infrastructure					
Are buildings within the school energy efficient?	Partially	Dec 24	Investigate further measures to become more energy efficient	Climate Team/SLT	New boiler – more efficient
Does the school utilise smart meters and energy management systems to reduce usage and bills?	No	Dec 24	Investigate potential of using smart meters on site Energy management: Smart meters – helping you make better informed decisions about energy use – Buying for Schools	Climate Team/SLT	

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Has the school implemented measures to alleviate poor air quality around the school premises?	Yes	Dec 24		Climate Team/SLT	Air monitors in place in all classrooms Green space with trees, shrubs and wildflower bed
Has the school been able to access the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to support decarbonising the estate?	No	Dec 24	Seek advice from LEA Sign up to Climate Friendly Schools Energy Audit from: Climatefriendlyschoools.org	Climate Team/SLT	Keep Britain Tidy- Countyourcarbon.org/home/
Does the school make use of best practice advice when investing money to reduce carbon emissions?	No	Dec 24	Seek advice from LEA	Climate Team/SLT	
Does the school have regard to the ‘Good Estate Management for Schools’ guidance when making decisions regarding sustainable management of the estate, including energy and water efficiency, addressing ventilation and dealing with leaks?	Yes	Dec 24	SLT/Gov/Caretaker continue to update and assess risks	Climate Team/SLT	
Does the school have contingency plans in place in the event of adverse conditions such as increased heat, flood risk or water scarcity?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT	
Does the school make use of any opportunities and advice to improve biodiversity, flood resilience and air quality?	Yes	Dec 24	Continue to work on Biodiversity	SLT	Clean air - Established during Covid Biodiversity – Sign up to Education Nature Park - Educationnaturepark.org

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
					RSPB birdwatch: Big School Bird watch
Has the school conducted a survey of how resilient existing buildings are and how their environmental conditions can be improved, including their access to nature?	Partially	Dec 24	Team to access support via Arch D, LEA regarding survey	Climate Team	
Has the school looked at ways in which to reduce indoor and outdoor air pollution, e.g. expanding anti-idling zones to reduce the impact of the school commute?	Partially	Dec 24	Seek advice from LEA	Climate Team	
Has the school looked at delivering initiatives to increase active and safe travel to school, e.g. walking and cycling?	Yes	Dec 24	January: continue to work with LEA regarding bike stand and promote active safe travel to school	Climate Team	Pastoral lead met with LEA regarding walk to school initiatives – Bikeability Walk to School Week
Does the school take steps to protect and enhance wildlife and ecosystems in and around the school grounds?	Yes	Dec 24			Grounds maintained, trees with bird boxes, bug hotel, wild areas designated for wildlife
Has the school considered heating solutions which do not utilize carbon intense fuels?	No	Dec 24	Team to consider options and the cost of alternative solutions (long Term plan, funding available)	Climate Team	
Has the school signed up to available weather and flood warnings?	Yes	Dec 24	LEA advice	SLT	

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Has the school looked at how it can reduce water usage and improve efficiency?	No	Dec 24	Team to investigate possible solutions – CPD Ref to ESCC energy team checklist energy saving guide. Eco Ambassadors	Caretaker	Identify support available
Operations and supply chains					
Does the school procure from companies that commit to achieving net zero by 2050 and have a plan in place which shows how they will meet this target?	No	Dec 24	Team to consider companies on the advice of LEA/Arch D	SLT/Gov Climate Team	
Does the school buy from procurement frameworks that offer sustainable goods and services?	No	Dec 24	Team to consider companies on the advice of LEA/Arch D Focus on accurate purchasing	SLT/Gov Climate Team	NB: Arch D: joint purchasing agreements
Does the school provide nutritionally balanced, affordable and sustainable meal choices?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT/Local kitchen	Food supplied by Local Kitchen Health, wealth and climate
Is there a whole-school approach to food which promotes accountability and transparency of school food arrangements?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT/Local kitchen	Food supplied by Local Kitchen – information available on request
Is consideration given to sustainable practice in relation to school food contracts, preparation and practice,	Yes	Dec 24	Sign up to Climate Friendly Schools Food Audit	SLT/Local kitchen	Food supplied by Local Kitchen – information available on request -Meat Free Monday

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
with thought given to ingredients and their environmental impact?			Work with Eco Ambassadors		
Does the school gather data and take action on food waste whilst making use of best practice advice for sustainable waste prevention and management?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT/Local kitchen	Food waste is monitored and managed by the kitchen team
Has the school moved away from single-use items and towards reusable alternatives where possible?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT/Local kitchen	
Does the school reduce reliance on single-use items in favour of alternatives, e.g. second hand uniforms?	Yes	Dec 24		Climate team/School council	School uniform swap shop established 2023
Are any free period products provided to pupils sustainable?	Yes	Dec 24		School Nurse	
Is food sourced locally where possible?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT	95% of food is local sourced Spotlight on Local Kitchen catering service
Has the school invested in renewable and sustainable energy sources, e.g. solar panels and LED lightbulbs?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT	LED lightbulbs used throughout the school

Area of action	In place? (Yes/no/partially)	Date checked	Action required	Individuals involved	Additional comments
Does the school have arrangements in place for the correct recycling of glass, paper, card, plastic, metal and food waste?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT	Gaskell's - recycling Waste Management Services Commercial Waste Removal Gaskells
Has the school taken measures to reduce its use of paper?	Yes	Dec 24		SLT	Paper use is monitored, staff are encouraged to avoid wastage and use shared drive when possible. Books have been purchased to avoid excessive photocopying; signage print only when necessary. Paperless communication with parents

Summary of findings and actions

Main priority areas include:

- **Establish Climate team and Eco Ambassadors and their duties**
- **Staff Training – Climate Awareness, raise teacher confidence in teaching about climate awareness**
- **Climate education – make curricular links to climate and sustainability**
- **Governor Training**
- **Join Climate Network, climate friendly schools for support and advice.**
- **Team to identify opportunities for further sustainability building on the good work of Live Simply**
- **Seeking advice and support from LEA (includes CPD)**