



Climate Change and Sustainability
Action Plan
2025-2028

Our school vision is ‘together we can empower our pupils to take on the world.’ Our commitment to sustainability and climate change is rooted in the belief that meaningful change is possible. With the right tools, resources and support, we are empowered to take action – and together, we will make a lasting difference.

What is a Climate Action Plan?

In April 2022, the Department for Education introduced a dedicated sustainability and climate change strategy for the education sector. By 2025, all educational institutions are expected to designate a sustainability lead and establish a climate action plan. This will serve as a framework for implementing sustainability initiatives and integrating climate education across the curriculum. At our school, the climate action plan has been developed by the headteacher, deputy headteacher, lead governor for sustainability, our school bursar, the site maintenance office, eco warriors (pupil group) and subject coordinators for geography and science.

Why is a Climate Action Plan important?

A Climate Action Plan is crucial for all schools because education settings collectively occupy a vast amount of land and have the opportunity to influence the minds of the young people we teach. When schools take coordinated action on sustainability, the impact can be both immediate and long-lasting – environmentally, socially and educationally.

Put into perspective, the combined area of all school grounds in the United Kingdom is estimated to be over 125,000 hectares – this is roughly the same size as Birmingham. Just as a city has the power to shape infrastructure and policy, schools – through their grounds, operations and curriculum – can shape the next generation’s attitudes and actions towards climate change.

By utilising school grounds to become more biodiverse, energy efficient, reduce waste and implement climate education, we can become powerful agents of change. This action plan will ensure that the potential impact we can have can be implemented strategically.

What is in Daven Primary School’s Climate Action Plan?

To help tackle climate change and care for the planet, our school’s climate action plan focussed on four important areas.

1. *Decarbonisation*

We are working to reduce our carbon emission by using energy more efficiently and making greener choices in how we run our school.

2. *Adaptation and Resilience*

This means preparing our school for climate-related challenge (like flooding or heatwaves) so we can keep everyone safe, and learning can continue – without disruption.

3. *Environment and Biodiversity*

We are improving our school grounds, building on the Chester Zoo’s Climate and Sustainability Outreach Project, to support local wildlife and nature. Projects like the National Education Nature Pack will help us continue to learn about and protect biodiversity.

4. *Climate Education and Green Careers*

Pupils will receive high-quality teaching about climate change and sustainability. We will also explore exciting green careers to help pupils see how they can make a difference in the future.

Please also see the Cheshire East Climate Change for Charter for Education Settings and The Learning Partnership Sustainability Action Plan
Action Plan for change

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
CURRICULUM					
Review the current curriculum and links to sustainability and climate change	Climate education and green careers	Complete a curriculum review with documented connections to sustainability and climate change by end of academic year. Following this, update published outcomes on school website. Utilise the work from Let's Go Zero.	By end of Spring Term - 2025	Subject Leaders and Deputy Head	
Incorporate climate literacy into English and Oracy sessions, by including texts, oracy tasks, and writing tasks focused on environmental themes	Climate education and green careers	At least two units per year in English lessons to feature environmental focal points (e.g. during World Environmental Day). Student writing and/or oracy tasks related to environmental topics are completed and assessed to check for understanding.	Annually	Oracy champions Subject leads Deputy headteacher	
Review, develop and implement opportunities for children, beyond EY and KS1, to connect with nature and the outdoors throughout the whole curriculum.	Climate education and green careers	Clear evidence of subject integration with outdoor learning activities; regular, documented learning about climate change in termly curriculum plans	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	Subject leaders Deputy Headteacher EYFS lead	
Review geography roadmap and lessons to ensure there is focus on the impact of climate change locally and globally.	Climate education and green careers	Completion of at least one major geography unit per phase, centred on climate change	To be fully embedded by September 2026	Science Lead/Humanities lead	

Introduce 'all pupils are leaders' initiative with two of the groups working together 'leaders of community' and 'leaders of sustainability.'	Climate education and green careers	Children in their leadership groups to complete a baseline of local issues that can impact the community. Their work includes a case study of a local environmental issue; student projects presented to peers or displayed in the school for awareness.	Annually	Headteacher All pupils are leaders groups	
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	At least three examples of curriculum-linked projects (e.g. trust-led art project, PE focus on outdoor sustainability activities, history lesson on environmental change) each academic year.	To be fully mapped out by the end of 2026.	Subject coordinators Deputy headteacher	
Promoting green careers to pupils	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of at least two sessions per year dedicated to green careers (workshops, career talks, or visits from professionals in sustainability sectors)	To be mapped out by the end of 2025/26 academic year	Subject coordinators Deputy headteacher	
Implementing the graduation champions for Y6 pupils, in which they will learn about sustainability and comp	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of Y6 pupils completing their champion journal activities linked to sustainability.	Annually	Headteacher Y6 class teacher	
Consider how to stimulate the whole school community to learn more about climate change and share the challenges or ideas in the school newsletter or on social media.	Climate education and green careers	At least one features in each half-termly newsletter or social media posts per year about climate initiatives and opportunities for community engagement; engagement metrics such as views, comments, or shares.	Annually	Headteacher	

WASTE					
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.	Decarbonisation	Set up clearly labelled recycling bins in all key areas (classrooms, dining hall, and staff rooms) by the end of the first term. Conduct at least two educational sessions per term on recycling practices for students and staff (via assemblies).	September 2025	Eco lead/Business Manager	
Leaders of sustainability to monitor and reduce waste in classrooms and communal areas	Decarbonisation	Form a sustainability student leadership group in the first term of 2025. Set a target to decrease classroom waste by 15% over the year, measured through regular waste checks and student-led waste reports	Annually	All pupils are leaders initiative Headteacher	
Leaders of sustainability to launch school recycling in classrooms	Decarbonisation	Eco team to launch recycling initiative.	July 2025	All pupils are leaders initiative Sustainability lead Headteacher	
Leaders of sustainability team to create climate change star rating for each room and monitor rooms.	Decarbonisation	Each room has a star rating against key climate change areas including energy use / switch off and winners shared each half term.	September 2025	All pupils are leaders initiative Sustainability lead Headteacher	

Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, glasses, batteries etc.)	Decarbonisation	Additional recycling stations at school Items in school recycled/reused/re-purposed	September 2025	Business Manager/Eco Lead	
Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils identified by the headteacher.	Decarbonisation	Litter picking to be organised and carried out each week.	October 2025	All pupils are leaders initiative Headteacher	
Implement a paper-reduction campaign, encouraging double-sided printing and digital alternatives	Decarbonisation	Reduce paper usage by 25% within the school year, tracked through monthly paper consumption records; ensure all printers are set to double-sided printing by default and promote digital assignments where possible.	Annually	Business manager Novus tech	
FOOD					
Introduce a school-wide campaign to reduce food packaging waste, encouraging reusable containers and package-free options.	Decarbonisation	Leaders of sustainability to launch a campaign encouraging students and staff to use reusable containers, with a goal to reduce packaging waste by 30% by the end of the academic year. Track	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	All pupils are leaders initiative Site managaer	

		packaging waste reduction through regular audits.			
Educate students about the impact of food waste on the climate and encourage action at school and at home.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Integrate lessons about the impact of food waste on climate change into the curriculum, with at least one focused session per term (e.g. through read and discover, Thinking Thursdays, assemblies). Encourage students to commit to reducing food waste at school and home, aiming for a 15% reduction in food waste school-wide by year-end.	Annually	Deputy headteacher Business manager	
Promote more vegetarian options and reduce the number of meat options/days.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Implement a "meat-free day". Monitor student uptake of vegetarian options.	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	Business manager Catering team	
Compost food waste from classrooms fruit	Climate Education and Green Careers	Each class collects food waste and take to 'green fruit bin' for composting each day.	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	Site Manager/Eco lead	
Compostable waste from lunch preparation to be separated and composted	Biodiversity	Catering manager to separate food waste for compost bins	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	Business manager, site manager and catering team.	
Food wastage monitored in dining hall to reduce food waste and menus reviewed to reduce wastage	Adaption and Resilience	Survey to monitor food waste and menus	By the end of 2025/26 academic year	Business manager Catering team	
Pupils grow food in the school allotment which is then used in	Biodiversity	Ensure that the harvested food is used in at least 3 cooking lessons	Ongoing from start of 2025/26	Eco lead/Forest school	

cooking lessons/forest school sessions				lead/Humanities lead	
AIR QUALITY					
Encourage children to come to school on foot, bike, or scooter to reduce pollution near the school. There is a bike shed on site.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Increase the number of students using alternative transport (walking, biking, or scootering) by 20% by the end of the academic year. Site manager to track participation and encourage the use of walking buses and bike racks.	September 2025	Eco lead/sustainability lead Site manager	
The grounds, near the road, are planted with a range of trees, flowers, and shrubs to improve air quality	Biodiversity	Plant at least 20 new trees and shrubs to improve air quality and reduce pollution.	By the end of academic year 2025/26	Lead governor Site manager	
Students are educated about air pollution and how they can reduce their own exposure to pollution and reduce their contribution to it.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Integrate air pollution education into at least one-year group's subject, each year, with all students participating in activities on how to reduce exposure and personal contributions to pollution	Ongoing from spring 2025/26	Deputy head Subject coordinators	
Students create road signs with air pollution information to display around the school.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Poster competition in school – best posters displayed around school, noticeboard, website	June 2025	Sustainability Lead teacher/ Eco lead	
Create a clean air zone around schools by implementing 'active' solutions (encouraging parents / carers to always switch off engines outside school, consider parents parking elsewhere and walking) to reduce pollution levels in and around school premises.	Adaption and Resilience	Air monitors used before and after initiative to measure impact Posters / newsletter used to share clean air zone Leaders of community and sustainability to monitor parent parking	To be started by September 2025	Business Manager/ site manager	

Organise a workshop for Upper KS2 children from Cheshire East Air Quality.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Arrange a workshop on air quality for Upper KS2 students, focusing on local air pollution issues, causes, and solutions.	Summer term 2025/26	Deputy headteacher KS2 teachers	
TRANSPORT					
Complete the school census 'mode of travel' question to provide a baseline of mode of travel to school data.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Census completed to create a baseline to measure against	Spring 2025/26	Leaders of sustainability	
Reduce travel emissions for school trips by considering transport options carefully.	Decarbonisation	Admin to enquire about sustainable transport options, ensuring that emissions are minimized by selecting eco-friendly travel modes whenever possible.	From September 2025	Admin EVC lead	
Host a 'walk to school week' to promote walking and raise awareness of the benefits of active travel	Active Travel & Climate Education	Organise a "Walk to School Week" with themed days, activities, and challenges to encourage walking. Set a goal for at least 50% of students to walk to school during this week and track the results	Spring 2025/26	PE lead	
ENERGY					
Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances, and plugs when not in use.	Decarbonisation	Staff compliance tracked through periodic checks and energy audits. Aim to increase adherence by 80% within the first term.	Autumn 2025/26	Business manager Site manager	
Monitor energy costs monthly and investigate concerns, particularly when the building is not in use.	Decarbonisation	Monthly monitoring reports produced, highlighting trends and areas of concern. Ensure energy-saving measures are in place during periods of low building use.	Autumn 2025/25	Business manager	

Leaders of sustainability to create climate change star rating for each room and monitor rooms half-termly.	Climate education and green careers	Each room has a star rating against key climate change areas including energy use / switch off	Spring 2025/26	Sustainability Lead teacher/eco lead	
Heating controls to be used to limit timings and temperature across school. Use room thermometers to monitor temperature levels, maintaining heating at 18°C-20°C in areas with normal activity, such as classrooms and offices.	Decarbonisation	Heating control panel fixed and working correctly Room thermostats to be installed and used to monitor room temperatures throughout the day • 18°C-20°C for parts of the building where there is a normal level of activity, such as classrooms and offices • 15°C for corridors, halls, washrooms and circulation areas	September 2026	Site manager	
Measure, record and publicise savings.	Decarbonisation	Baseline measure taken of energy use. Encourage switch off practice as above Publicise our savings	September 2026	Site manager	

OUTDOOR SPACE

Create a rain garden in shallow landscaped depressions that can capture runoff from roofs or hard surfaces and can be planted with a wide range of plants that can survive occasional highwater volumes.	Adaption and Resilience	Rain gardens in place successfully planted (Early Years Building)	July 2026	Sustainability Lead Teacher With Site Maintenance Officer	
Introduce additional shade structures to reduce heat risk and allow time outdoors in hot weather – particularly by infant classrooms.	Adaption and Resilience	Grant funding for large trees to be planted to replace those that had to be felled. Sustainable shade area using natural planting (climbers over timber kickwall	July 2026	Business Manager and Site Maintenance Officer	

		structure using recycled/ sustainable wood source) or repurposing of polytunnel			
Reduce flood risk in school playground area, field and pond	Adaptation and Resilience	Flood prevention measures in place and reduction in flood levels in high rain. Ongoing project with Vale Junior Football Club to raise funds for a MUGA on the field.	July 2026	Business Manager	
Repurpose Polytunnel to create an outdoor classroom space for sustainability lessons, forest school and additional shelter at lunchtimes	Climate education and green careers	Work with Cheshire Wildlife Trust and school/parent volunteers/Scouts to revamp the polytunnel Tesco Grant application	Academic year 2026/27	Headteacher and Site Manager Business manager	
Create spaces to encourage local wildlife to thrive.	Climate education and green careers	Build on the work and learning from the Chester Zoo project and the Hyrdo £1000 grant money to create safe spaces for local wildlife to thrive e.g. hedgehog homes, bird feeders.	Autumn term 2025/26	Headteacher Business Manager Leaders of sustainability	
WATER					
Incorporate local water scarcity (canals) and hazard risks into curriculum plans to promote a culture of water conservation	Climate Education and Green Careers	Curriculum plans for geography and science include lessons on local water scarcity and hazard risks. Encourage students to develop creative water-saving solutions for the school. Progress measured through student projects and engagement. Make links with the Canal Trust.	Summer term 2025/26	Deputy headteacher Subject coordinators	

Encourage staff, parents and pupils to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups and educate them to pour leftover water onto the garden.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Reduction in disposable bottle and cup use at school events, with visible re-use of leftover water for garden hydration. Track changes through monitoring waste levels at events.	Ongoing from September 2025	Business Manager with PTA Chair (promote refillable cups)	
Install water butts around the school grounds to collect rainwater for watering allotments and plants.	Adaptation and Resilience	Water butts installed at key locations around the school. Measure success through reduced use of potable water for gardening and an increase in the use of collected rainwater.	Summer 2026	Business Manager	
Ensure all sinks have access to plugs and staff are encouraged to not wash up under a running tap.	Adaptation and Resilience	Plugs in situ and being used Measurable reduction in water use	June 2026	Site Maintenance Officer	
Install new water butts next to polytunnel and EYFS buildings for rainwater harvesting	Adaptation and Resilience	Water butts to be purchased from Cheshire East council under new scheme for schools	Oct 2025	Site Maintenance Officer/school business manager	
PROCUREMENT					
Review common purchases to identify more sustainable alternatives.	Decarbonisation	20% of common purchases moves to sustainable alternatives	January 2026	Business Manager	
Identify factors causing emissions from your regular or high value purchases – consider transport, disposable commodities, energy and fuel use, packaging, primary and secondary waste.	Decarbonisation	20% of regular and high value purchases moves to sustainable alternatives	September 2025	Business Manager	
Ask regular suppliers if they have a carbon reduction plan and Net Zero Target.	Decarbonisation	Plans received from regular suppliers and contractors	September 2025	Business Manager	

Once purchases have reached end of life, is there an alternative use? Consider take back schemes offered by some of your suppliers e.g. for furniture, recycling schemes like Olio and Freecycle or donating to local charities.	Decarbonisation	Reduction in waste / skip use More items recycled/repurposed	July 2026	Site Maintenance Officer	
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Daven commits to continue with the following actions:

	DfE Link	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.	Humanities Lead teacher

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.	Humanities Lead teacher
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, workshops and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the students to help the environment.	Humanities Lead teacher
4	Climate education and green careers	The Curriculum at Daven 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.	Humanities Lead teacher
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home.	Humanities Lead teacher

Waste

1	Decarbonisation	At Daven, we continually work to minimise our paper use e.g. through the 'holding' function on the printer, password protection, reminders to only print when necessary, photocopier default set to print on both sides and black and white.	Business Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Second hand uniform shop available to parents.	Business Manager/PTA
4	Decarbonisation	Paperless communication with parents.	Business Manager/Headteacher
5	Decarbonisation	Records Management system in place to reduce the amount of information saved on network drives and on the cloud.	Business Manager/Office Administrator

Food

1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste.	Business Manager
2	Climate education and green careers	Students are educated about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home.	Humanities Lead/Science lead/Sustainability Lead
3	Climate education and green careers	Promote more vegetarian options and reduce the number of meat options / days. The menu includes a meat free Monday and 2 vegetarian and 1 meat option Tuesday – Friday.	Business Manager working with Mellors Catering Provider
4	Climate education and green careers	Lunch time is managed to reduce queuing time and to ensure all pupils are given time to eat and time to play to reduce food waste due to pupils feeling they do not have enough time to eat.	Sustainability lead

5	Climate education and green careers	Meals are managed in a way which means pupils can make a selection at the servery – ensuring they are choosing something they want to eat, alongside reducing wastage of over cooking through preorders.	Sustainability lead
Air Quality			
1	Climate education and green careers	Children are encouraged to come to school on foot, bike, scooter to reduce pollution near school. There are bike racks and a sheltered area for scooters.	Business Manager
2	Biodiversity	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality.	Business Manager
3	Climate education and green careers	Students are educated about air pollution and how they can reduce their own exposure to pollution and how they can reduce their contribution to it.	Humanities Lead teacher/science lead
4	Adaptation and resilience	Air quality monitors around the school show the air quality is good – this is monitored regularly	Site Manager
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	Scooter and bike racks available for all pupils	Business Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Bikeability training offered to all pupils in KS2	Business Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Parents/Carers of pupils in upper key stage 2 are encouraged to allow their children to be responsible for getting themselves to and from school.	Business Manager
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use.	Business Manager/Eco leads
3	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	Site Maintenance Officer
5	Decarbonisation	Use and refer regularly to the ESCC Energy Team energy checklist and Energy Saving Guide, Caretaker and Business Manager have both completed the less CO2 course	Business Manager
Outdoor Space			
1	Biodiversity	Green spaces utilised well across the school including regular forest school	Forest School Lead/Eco leads/Science lead
2	Biodiversity	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school perimeter to capture more carbon with natural solutions. (Ordered for November 2025)	Eco Lead

3	Biodiversity	Birdbaths, feeders, bird houses, bug hotels, bee hotels, all installed to support local wildlife.	Eco Lead
4	Climate education and green careers	Students are involved in looking after our green spaces	Eco Lead
5	Climate education and green careers	Gardening and Forest School clubs are offered throughout the year	Forest School Lead/ Eco Lead
6	Biodiversity	Where possible we do not use any chemicals within our outside space to help wildlife. We work closely with our grounds maintenance team to find alternatives to chemicals	Business Manager
7	Climate education and green careers	Forest School on site, sessions for KS1 providing nurture learner-led exploration and discovery, nurturing meaningful experiences for positive lifelong impacts.	Forest School Lead
Water			
1	Climate education and green careers	Curriculum plans include learning about local water scarcity and hazard risks to encourage a culture of saving, rather than wasting water and to encourage creative ideas for how water can be saved at school.	Humanities Lead teacher/Science lead
Procurement			
1	Decarbonisation	Resources are bought with a 'just in time' mindset ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste.	Business Manager