



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

DEVONSHIRE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our call to action for our planet.



biodiversity



decarbonisation



climate education
and green careers



adaptation and
resilience

Biodiversity

We aim to enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access to, and connect with, nature.

Decarbonisation

We aim to reduce emissions and support our community to be part of transition to net zero.

Climate Education

We will prepare pupils for a world impacted by climate change through our curriculum and practices.

Adaptation and Resilience

We aim to adapt our buildings and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change.

Bringing out the best in everyone!



active and
sustainable travel



air quality



waste consumption
and recycling



food

Active and sustainable travel

We aim to encourage staff and families to consider their travel choices to and from school.

Air quality

We aim to work with our community to reduce traffic pollution and plant trees to improve air quality.

Waste consumption and recycling

We will be a model of excellent practice for our school community.

Food

We aim to teach our children about where their food comes from so that they can make sustainable choices.

Lead responsible for action plan: Emma Hodge (headteacher)

Member of staff coordinating eco curriculum: Nicola Hickey

Governors responsible for monitoring impact: Quality of Provision Committee and Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee

Biodiversity	Decarbonisation	Climate education	Adaptation and resilience	Travel	Air quality	recycling	food
What do we want to improve/what is our goal?	What is our current position?	What changes will we make?	Actions		Who is responsible for these changes?	What is our timeline for success?	
Biodiversity	We are an urban school with limited space and no greenspace at all. However, we are blessed with some well-established trees and shrubbery around our perimeter. We are also hoping that an adjoining school site will be drawn into our boundary during 2025-2026, giving us more land. We have a memorial garden which includes a pond which is a permanent residence to some frogs.	Plant flowers and plants that will increase biodiversity across school.	Community volunteers (parents/carers) to tend to planters with school purchasing resources.		EH KB (purchasing)	30 th April 2026	
		Bug houses	Workshop for Year 2 to enhance their science work on local habitats. Year 2 to build bug houses which will be placed around the school grounds.		EH Y2 staff KB (purchasing)	31 st October 2026	
		Develop area behind fences so that it can be accessed by children.	Secure grant/funding to pay for ground works for this area. Pull fences down so that the land is accessible once developed.		KB & EH – apply for grants	31 st July 2026	
		Develop a better understanding of our local biodiversity.	DRPS Ambassadors to record our “nature” and track progress via www.educationnaturepark.co.uk		NHi	31 st July 2026	
		Reduce litter in our local area;	Community Litter Pick to be launched. All children encouraged to sign out a litter picker to pick up litter on their way home from school.		NHi	October 2025	
		Reduce litter in our local area;	Join with the PASS group litter pick. 4 children chosen from DRPS Ambassadors.		NHi	May 2026	
Decarbonisation	Our school is situated in a Victorian building which will celebrate its centenary in 2026. Over the past two years, Bolton LA have committed to upgraded the school’s full heating system and electrical fittings throughout the whole building. IN October 2024 the school had an operational grade of “D” and we expect there has been an improvement since this was issued. In 2025, we made improvements to our roof. Inspections have recommended a full roof replacement. This will be a future project due to budget constraints.	Replace boilers and heating system to make more economical and ecologically friendly.	Bolton Cooperate Property Services to replace all boilers		Bolton LA	August 2023	
		Installation of LED lighting system throughout school.	Bolton Cooperate Property Services to replace all electrics in school		Bolton LA	August 2024	
		Automatic switch-off for all lighting in school.	All lighting to be on timed sensors		Bolton LA	August 2024	
		Reduce amount of heat lost through roof	Repair slipped/broken roof to ensure better insulation.		JB	April 2025	
		Reduce amount of heat lost through roof	Replace roof completely.		Bolton LA cooperate services & DRPS	??	
		Decrease school’s carbon footprint in regards to school meals.	Purchase from local suppliers where possible and speak to School’s Kitchen about the locality of their suppliers		KB – procurement EH – raise at HT consultation groups	On-going October 2025	
		Increase use of renewable energy in schools	Use solar panel calculator to assess need. Undertake feasibility assessment to see if the building is suitable.		KB	May 2026	

			Contact a local community energy group for advice.		
Climate education	Last year, we amalgamated the Eco Council with the School Council so that we could ensure that environment and sustainability was a main focus for our pupil action. Nicola Hickey leads the newly branded “Devonshire Road Ambassadors” and collaborates on developing the wider community’s understanding of Global Goals through collaboration with the PASS group (a local cluster of schools). Some amazing work has been done over the last few years. We now need to make sure that our community is more aware of the work, and has further opportunity to be involved.	Raise pupil awareness and interest in environmental action	Choose house team representatives who are good role models as climate activists. Sir David Attenborough Kong Man Jing Lesein Mutunkei Dame Jane Goodall	SLT	September 2025
		Raise awareness of how ecological issues are directly linked to mental health	Be an active part in Bolton’s “Enviro-Fest: Five Ways Happy Days”	NHi & DRPS Ambassadors	July 2025
		Raise awareness of sustainability in purchases and the impact our purchases have on the environment and people.	Take part in Fair Trade Fortnight: launch assembly from Justica (local Church-run shop); DRPS to sell Fairtrade items to parents/carers during coffee mornings & serve FairTrade coffee; FairTrade stall after school.	NHi DRPS Ambassadors EH	September 2025
		Encourage students and staff to turn off lights and monitors.	Switch Off Fortnight: DRPS Ambassadors will monitor electricity usage across the school, particularly which screens/ lights haven’t been turned off when not being used. Classes can earn tokens (positive or warnings) and the class with the most positive tokens will get a prize. The Pod Campaigns	NHi DRPS Ambassadors	November 2025
		Review curriculum to understand where climate change/careers feature/could feature.	Whole school staff to review curriculum to map out existing climate and environment education and add in purposeful opportunities.	All staff	July 2025
		Share with wider community: social media; website; newsletters; displays	Page on website dedicated to climate education in school. Continue to celebrate work done on newsletter; Facebook; Instagram. DRPS Ambassadors to give YouTube update videos once a term.	TA NHi, KB, JH, LK NHi & TA	October 2025 On-going Termly
		Ensure that eco matters stay at the forefront of children’s thoughts	Map our eco-themed assemblies throughout the year. Continue to use Picture News for daily reflection time in class.	SLT	by September 2025
		Mindful of eco- anxieties and teach about greenwashing	Staff meeting to give awareness to staff about greenwashing and eco-anxiety. Engagement with Picture News. Staff to discuss as part of each “Future/Sustainability” strand being taught in geography.	NHi CC	Throughout year
Adaptation and resilience	School has limited space and a limited budget for making grand-scale adaptations. Luckily, we are on a hill and are not at risk of flooding although the capacity of the 100 year old drains might be an issue as these are already prone to blocking. Main concern would be coping	Air quality measurement in classrooms with long term plan for air conditioning	Measure temperatures and air quality in all rooms	JB & KB	Summer Term 2026
		Policy in place for extreme weather response	Compile policy using updated advice from Bolton Policy and Procedure department	EH	July 2026
		Procurement of air conditioning units for areas of school that have highest need	Long term project - air conditioning units *research into costs *build into long term budget	KB	September 2027

	with the rising temperatures in the classroom and sun exposure on the playground.				
Travel & Air quality	No walking bus currently. Lots of children walk with parents/carers but there is also a large number of children who are dropped off in car due to parents having multiple school drop offs. Breakfast club means that drop offs are staggered. No current identified space for park and walk.	Develop a clear understanding of current	Survey data on how children travel to school		
		Encourage cycling - Bikeability			
		WOW (walk once a week) Walk to school initiative – September Launch	Encourage children to walk to school through the WOW incentive (badges and trackers)	NHi All staff	Throughout the year 2025-2026
Recycling & reduction	Waste collection service moved from private provider to Bolton Council in April 2025. Bolton Council issue recycling bins as opposed to sorting at depo so this encourages staff and children to recycle in school. With the help of a very committed parent, school has successfully run a uniform swap at the end of term for the past three years. Halloween swaps and Christmas jumper recycling has also been offered. We are concerned about the amount of paper we use and throw away each week.	Food recycling to be introduced across the school.	Recycling bins in playground. Recycling bins in all spaces in school.	KB JB	June 2025
		Enhance recycling systems in school.	Assess waste separation every 4 months in order to enhance systems	Devonshire Road Ambassadors, EH, JB	Throughout the year 2025-2026
		Big battery hunt	Organise battery recycling	NHi	Throughout the year 2025-2026
		Food waste weigh	Healthy Living Week	Devonshire Road Ambassadors, NHi	June 2025
		Clothes swaps – uniform swap shop	Uniform swap organised by school with the help of parents/carers. Has been running since 2021.	EH Office Staff Zoe Smethurst	annual
		Eco refill shop	Visit Gilnow Primary to see how their model works. Assess if this is something we should do at DRPS/invite Gilnow to sell at our school too.	EH & NHi	January 2025
		1:1 iPads to reduce paper	Purchase repurposed iPads July 2025 (60 for Year 6). Delegate responsibility to member of staff to lead on paper reduction through 1:1 iPad use. Roll out through school dependant on its success	EH, TA, KB SP	Throughout the year 2025-2026
general	We achieved the Schools' Green Flag Award with Merit in September 2023 and are now working towards our Eco Schools Accreditation. In 2021, we joined with some other likeminded primary schools in our local area to pledge our commitment to teaching our children about, and working towards, Global Goals.	Renew Eco Schools Green Flag Award (biodiversity, litter, water)	Through assemblies, policy/procedure change and staff meetings we will work towards reaccreditation	NHi & Devonshire Road Ambassadors	Throughout the year 2025-2026
		Children to understand how large scale change is made through policy and political systems	MP meeting Ambassadors; Houses of Parliament	SLT & NHi	October 2025
		Global Citizenship PASS group with local schools – joint pledge (displayed in entrance hall)	Pledge to commit to teaching children about global goals signed by all schools		Longstanding since June 2021

Be Kind	Be Curious	Be The Best You Can Be
• Kindness to the Earth: Teaching respect for the environment by promoting sustainable practices like recycling and conserving energy. • Kindness to Others: Engaging in community projects (e.g., clean-ups, tree planting) that benefit both people and the planet. •	• Curiosity about Nature: Encourages exploration of ecosystems, wildlife, and environmental issues. • Inquiry-Based Learning: Students ask questions and engage in hands-on activities to discover how nature works. • Problem Solving: Promotes innovation to find eco-friendly solutions (e.g., reducing plastic use).	• Empowerment: Students take responsibility for their actions and see the positive impact of eco-friendly choices. • Personal Growth: Encourages students to set goals and practice sustainable habits. • Leadership: Fosters a sense of leadership in environmental initiatives (e.g., organising recycling programmes).