






Your School's Climate Action Plan

OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION RC SCHOOL - 01/04/25

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Students to take part in a litter survey</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Litter not only makes our environment look unpleasant, but it impacts the health of thousands of animals every year, as well as reaching and polluting our oceans and rivers.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>In the process students will be clearing up litter in their local area.</p>	<p>In Marine Conservation Society's Litter in the Environment lesson plan and worksheets, students will experience litter in the environment first-hand by taking part in a litter survey. Results will then be analysed, looking at the sources and properties of litter, considering how it could impact the environment.</p>
<p>Receive a free talk or workshop from WaterAid</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>It is important for students to understand that even in the rainy UK it is important to look after our water.</p>	<p>WaterAid's trained speakers are experts in water, sanitation and hygiene. Speakers can give an online talk or workshop to your group about WaterAid's work to tackle COVID-19, climate change, periods and more! Book a free talk or workshop.</p>
<p>Include the school's carbon reduction plan in the school plan</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>By putting your carbon reduction plan into your school plan it is at the heart of the school's planning.</p> <p>The DfE advice is to develop a 'green policy' which includes a mission statement; objectives and targets; roles and responsibilities; a framework for action planning and milestones to review progress. Your school plan will, undoubtedly, already include all of these, so the carbon reduction plan could be slotted in.</p> <p>1) The school leadership must agree as it is to ensure that carbon reduction is not marginalised.</p> <p>2) Once agreed run an audit to discover what needs to be prioritised.</p> <p>3) Ensure the actions on the carbon reduction plan are regularly reported on.</p>	<p>The Department of Education advises on creating a 'Green Policy'. Electricity NW's website shares technical information and case studies. For a more school's focused resource you could use the S3 School's Self Assessment tool.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our resilience and adaptation to climate change" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>




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<p>Improve the facilities at school to encourage more people to walk, scoot or cycle</p> <p> Pathway: Community</p>	<p>1) Provide showers and locker facilities for staff to encourage active travel</p> <p>2) Offer a cycle to work scheme to your staff to encourage active travel</p> <p>The Cycle to Work scheme is designed to help your staff save money on a new bike and spread the cost of the bike over monthly tax-free instalments throughout the year.</p> <p>3) Improve cycle and scooter parking to encourage active travel</p> <p>The recommended minimum levels of scooter and cycle parking are:</p> <p>Primary schools: 1 scooter space per 10 pupils and 1 cycle space per 20 pupils</p> <p>Secondary schools: 1 cycle space per 10 pupils. In Scotland, funding is available to help implement cycle/scooter parking through Sustrans.</p> <p>All schools: 1 cycle space per 20 staff in a non-pupil area</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Physical activity improves physical and mental health.</p> <p>Suitable bike/scooter parking will promote physical activity, which improves physical and mental health.</p>	<p>Cycle UK provides useful guidance on cycle-friendly employers and cycle-commuting.</p> <p>Check out Sustrans' helpful guidance called 'The Cycle to Work scheme explained'. Plus, they have lots of excellent ideas and actions that you can use to change your workplace.</p>
<p>Explore how your local area connects to the ocean and how litter travels from sources on land to the sea</p> <p> Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>It's estimated that 80% of litter in the ocean comes from inland sources, showing that no matter how far we live from the sea, our actions can affect marine life.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Helps to get students to raise awareness in their community.</p>	<p>Marine Conservation Society provides a lesson plan and worksheets for 7-11 year olds, to help students understand the ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.</p>



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<p>Run a campaign to stop food waste at lunchtime</p> <p> Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Stopping food waste reduces the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>Working with pupils in the Eco team and the school kitchen devise a campaign to prevent food waste. Consider food wasted in the kitchen and food waste that is not eaten.</p> <p>1) Work with kitchen staff and the Eco team to organise food waste audits including food wasted in preparation, spoilage and from plates. It may be necessary to run the audit several times to identify trends.</p> <p>2) Create an action plan to share your findings with the whole school and sets targets to reduce food waste for a certain period.</p> <p>3) Organise how you will promote your campaign.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It saves money on food purchasing and waste disposal.</p>	<p>WRAP's report on food waste in schools may be old but is still useful and can be found here.</p> <p>Food Savvy have more information of how to reduce food waste in schools here.</p> <p>Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) have more information about how to reduce waste and recycle here.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Put on a Fairtrade event</p> <p> Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Holding an event can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement.</p>	<p>Once your students have learnt about Fairtrade whether that be through the teaching resources or by having a speaker visit the school. The next step would be to take action by running a Fairtrade event.</p> <p>This could be a Fairtrade bake sale, a Fairtrade fashion show or running a stall at a local event to raise awareness of Fairtrade.</p>
<p>Complete a water audit action plan</p> <p> Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Carrying out a water audit will help your school to identify where leaks and inefficient water usage is taking place.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>As well as saving water, this activity will support the school in saving energy and reduce it's water costs. This activity can also help schools achieve their eco awards.</p>	<p>Anglian Water's free water audit pack can help you and your students, reduce water use at school. The audit supports the creation of a water school action plan, collecting data on your school's water use and involving your community.</p>


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Run a Clean Air Day assembly  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Spread awareness throughout your whole school community on the issue of air pollution and how it impacts our health as well as the environment.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group.</p>	<p>For Clean Air Day, Global Action Plan created a collection of school resources to inspire schools to create cleaner air.</p> <p>If you are new to the topic there are learning resources for KS1, 2 & 3 available.</p> <p>If you are keen on involving a whole year group or the entire school, they also provide an assembly pack that includes a PowerPoint and plan that can be used by teachers, volunteers or adapted for students to run an in person or digital assembly on clean air.</p>
Invite a visitor to speak about Fairtrade  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Are you and your school new to Fairtrade and want to learn more?</p> <p>There are many people that you could invite to speak at your school – your local Fairtrade community group may have somebody who would like to come and speak to pupils about Fairtrade. You could get in touch with a local Fairtrade-supporting supermarket to see if they have somebody who can talk about Fairtrade in your school.</p> <p>It is also possible to request a visit from a member of staff from the Fairtrade Foundation using the request form.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Your students can hear from an expert on Fairtrade.</p>	<p>You can find out where your nearest Fairtrade Community Group is here.</p>

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<p>Students to learn how to save energy in their day to day life</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>When we consume less power, we reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released by factories, conserve the earth's natural resources and protect ecosystems from destruction. By taking steps to reduce our energy intake, we are contributing to a healthier and happier world.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Pre-prepared high quality lesson plan and supporting resources.</p>	<p>Young Citizens provide lesson plans through their subscription. In their Saving Energy lesson, students will learn what is meant by the term energy source. They will consider how they use energy in their lives and be introduced to the basic environmental concerns raised when creating electricity from burning fossil fuels or through nuclear reactions.</p> <p>Students will then be shown how they can help the environment through saving energy in their day to day lives.</p>

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<p>Reduce polluting traffic around the school</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Talk to your local authority about reducing speed limits on the streets around your school</p> <p>Reducing speed limits and encouraging smooth driving on roads near the school can cut pollution and improve road safety.</p> <p>2) Talk to your local authority about moving the bus stop away from the playground</p> <p>In some cases, bus stops near the school may be a significant source of emissions with buses frequently braking and accelerating to and from the stop. This may also contribute to queuing traffic and congestion. Relocating the stop further away from the school may help to lessen these issues.</p> <p>3) Ask the council to replace heavy polluting public buses with low emission alternatives</p> <p>Public transport is a lower air pollution option than the car per passenger. However, older buses can still contribute significantly to air pollution. The good news is that low emission buses are available.</p> <p>4) Ask your local authority to limit heavy weight vehicles from using the roads around the school</p> <p>Introduce a weight restriction to prevent large polluting freight vehicles driving past the school.</p> <p>5) Ask your local authority to introduce Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV)-only streets around the school</p> <p>Take a look at the case study on page 19 of the Mayor of London's 'Toolkit of Measures to Improve Air Quality at Schools' for inspiration.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Reducing speed limits will also improve road safety.</p> <p>Encouraging ULEVs around the school will help with the transition away from petrol and diesel vehicles.</p>	<p>Request a speed limit reduction here.</p> <p>The Low Emission Bus Guide provides advice on procuring new buses and retrofitting diesel buses.</p> <p>Page 19 of the Mayor of London's 'Toolkit of Measures to Improve Air Quality at Schools' is an excellent source of inspiration for introducing an Ultra Low Emission Zone.</p>




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<p>Promote active travel on the school run</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Start a walking bus</p> <p>Work with parents/carers to set up walking buses. A walking bus is a group of children and adults who walk to school along a set route, picking up more students along the way. When done on a regular basis, adults can take it in turns to accompany the walking bus.</p> <p>2) Create and share a map of low pollution walking routes to school</p> <p>A walking zone is a defined area around the school within which children and families are encouraged to walk. Work with students to use mapping software to create a map of low pollution walking routes within the walking zone, and distribute this across the school community.</p> <p>3) Launch a week-long active travel challenge to encourage your students to try walking or cycling to school</p> <p>By trying walking and/or cycling to school as part of a fun challenge week, new travel habits can be formed as families and students experience the benefits of active travel.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.</p>	<p>Living Streets hosts an annual Walk to School Week.</p> <p>Living Streets' 'Walking Zones' lesson plan involves children in the set up of a walking zone. Use the 'Creating a map of low pollution walking routes' guide to lead your students through a map-making activity.</p> <p>Take a look at our case study of a school using Clean Air Day to launch their brand-new walking bus as a way to reduce children's exposure to pollution.</p> <p>Download Clean Air Day's the 'How to: Organise a walking bus to school' guide or 'Walking bus banner' and get walking.</p> <p>Check out our case study of a Clean Air Route map design helping 96% of children to walk to school in Bow.</p> <p>Sustrans have resources available to help encourage children to cycle to school.</p>
<p>Investigate your school food procurement</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Food and drink production and distribution contributes 20% of UK carbon emissions every year and is the leading cause of deforestation, land use change and biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Encouraging sustainable and healthy eating.</p>	<p>The Food for Life programme is about making good food the easy choice for everyone – making healthy, tasty and sustainable meals the norm for all to enjoy, reconnecting people with where their food comes from, teaching them how it's grown and cooked, and championing the importance of well-sourced ingredients.</p>



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<p>Reduce non-food waste in the dining room</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>This can reduce plastic and other waste streams created by the school canteen.</p> <p>School canteens can produce lots of non food waste such as throw away plates, cutlery, cups, drink cartons and various types of food wrapping. The simple question is can more sustainable options be found?</p> <p>1) Working with the Eco team to organise a non-food waste audit with the kitchen.</p> <p>2) Analyse the findings and create an action plan with the kitchen staff, pupils and the business manager to reduce waste. Consider whether compostable plates can be composted, if a dish washer would be better or if food could be stored better.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This could reduce costs and the school's carbon footprint.</p>	<p>By joining Food for Life you can get support materials. Oxfordshire has provided a useful resource to help you think through non-food waste.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Host an environmental event on a topic of your choice at your school, including parents in the school community</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Encouraging parents to get involved in environmental action at their child's school is a great way to get them motivated to take action.</p> <p>When this action is happening at school and at home, we can expect longer term, long lasting change in a community.</p>	<p>Green School Bali has more information about changing culture in schools, learn more here.</p>
<p>Create a pond or a wetland in the school grounds</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Creating a rain garden helps alleviate localised flooding.</p> <p>A rain garden is designed to temporarily channel and contain rain water. Often on a slope it collects water run-off from roofs and hard surfaces into a depression in the ground. Like any garden the depression will be landscaped and planted according to the conditions.</p> <p>1) Talk to senior leaders about your idea.</p> <p>2) Consider the site and, if there is flooding, where the water comes from and runs to. Consider where a hole could be dug deep in order to be filled with materials that allow water to sit around them.</p> <p>3) Bring in expertise to help you consider the need, its position and the costs.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It keeps the air cooler, provides habitat and can look good.</p>	<p>If you want to see school rain garden there is a local garden at Moorlands Primary in Trafford, whilst the University of Salford have a demonstration rain garden on their campus called the Living Lab. Groundwork, City of Trees and the RHS have experience building rain gardens. Rain gardens can be expensive so it is worth exploring grants and getting quotations.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>




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Run a Fairtrade Campaign  Pathway: Community	<p>Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Children who have taken part in a campaign understand their own sense of agency to create change.</p> <p>Running a campaign can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement</p>	<p>Take a look at Fairtrade's Take Action pages and see if there are any national campaigns that your school would like to be involved with or perhaps younger pupils could create a campaign to encourage staff to switch to Fairtrade tea and coffee in the staffroom.</p> <p>Take part in Fairtrade Fortnight !</p>
Run a Switch-off campaign  Pathway: Community	<p>Saving energy saves money and reduces the school's carbon footprint. Co-benefits: pupils find they can make a real difference through the campaign and it reduces the need for energy production.</p> <p>Running a Switch-off campaign needs a whole school push to turn off electrical items when they are not in use or not needed. Challenging assumptions about what is deemed necessary can be important. Do all the lights need to be switched on in a room? Does the projector need to be on all lesson?</p> <p>1) Find out who keeps a check on the school's energy use.</p> <p>2) Use their data, or data collected in an energy audit, to find out where most energy is used as this is a good place to save it.</p> <p>3) Get staff and pupils on board by promoting the Switch off.</p> <p>4) Ask the Eco team to monitor what energy is being used across the school during the Switch off.</p> <p>5) Ask the pupils to report back to the whole school on the results.</p>	<p>Eco Schools run Switch-off Fortnight every Autumn term and if you join The Pod you can access lots of support materials.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>



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Support parents to prioritise public transport  Pathway: Community	<p>Encouraging parents and pupils to use public transport for the school journey, means less cars creating air pollution and less petrol and diesel cars means a reduction in carbon emissions.</p> <p>New parents receive plenty of information about the school and this can include local information about public transport. Encouraging families to use public transport can have an impact on the school run making the locality safer and less polluted.</p> <p>1) To encourage the use of public transport to school provide information about local transport to new parents.</p> <p>2) Add the links to the school website and to any other suitable promotional materials such as the school newsletter.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>There will be less traffic on the school run outside school.</p>	<p>Free bus passes are available for pupils in certain circumstances such as the journey to school being more than 3 miles. Purchasing an i-go card means that pupils travelling on public transport aged 5-16 can pay the child fare rate.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our transport and travel " which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
Sign up to the TOW newsletter, to keep up to date with the latest news, events and resources  Pathway: Community	<p>The Transform Our World (TOW) website, is a dynamic hub with a huge pool of environmental resources for teachers to freely use.</p> <p>Through signing up to the monthly TOW newsletter, you will receive helpful links to the most up to date and relevant resources as well as hearing about important news and events, to keep you fully informed and engaged along your climate action journey.</p>	<p>Go to edit your TOW profile, and tick yes under 'receive news and updates from Transform our World and the latest about the Youth Climate Summit.'</p>
Make a Fairtrade switch  Pathway: Community	<p>Support your school in consuming Fairtrade, which in turn demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Making a Fairtrade switch can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement.</p>	<p>Making a Fairtrade switch could involve working with your canteen, catering company or even local authority to switch to Fairtrade bananas in your canteen or encouraging local caf��s or restaurant to switch to Fairtrade ingredients.</p> <p>Find out how your school can switch to Fairtrade here.</p>


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Fundraise for WaterAid  Pathway: Community	<p>Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene are basic human rights. They should be a normal part of daily life for everyone, everywhere – but they aren't. WaterAid work on making these basic rights accessible for millions of people across the world as well as supporting communities to breakthrough from poverty and change their lives for good.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students learn how to organise events and are united in compassion to raise money for a cause.</p>	<p>There are loads of great ways to raise money for WaterAid at your school, with activities that kids will love. WaterAid provides you ideas, resources, templates and more to help schools organise fundraising events.</p>
Hold a Fairtrade conference  Pathway: Community	<p>Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This brings local schools together and helps to reach the wider community.</p>	<p>Holding a Fairtrade conference would involve inviting other schools to come along to a day or an afternoon of Fairtrade activities. You can use the Fairtrade schools map to find out which other schools in your area are working towards their Fairtrade Schools Awards. If you would like any help with this challenge please let the Fairtrade Foundation know at schools@fairtrade.org.uk.</p>


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<p>Engage and inform the school community about air pollution to help everyone play their part</p>  <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>1) Talk to families about the air pollution actions you are taking at school in your school newsletter</p> <p>Adding air pollution content to your school newsletter will help to inform parents/carers about the problem and what they can do to help tackle it.</p> <p>2) Add a link to the Clean Air Hub on your school website</p> <p>Providing information about air pollution and what people can to do improve it will help people to protect their health and reduce air pollution in the community. The Clean Air Hub is a one-stop shop for information on air pollution.</p> <p>3) Send out text alerts to families informing them of high air pollution days</p> <p>Informing families about high air pollution episodes can help protect people's health.</p> <p>4) Make provisions for those with health issues to stay inside during periods of high air pollution</p> <p>For some students with health conditions such as asthma, air pollution may exacerbate their symptoms. It is important to be aware of the possible implications of high pollution days and have a plan in place.</p> <p>5) Display air pollution information on notice boards around the school</p> <p>Clean Air Day posters and the leaflet helps you to share key information about air pollution and what you can do to avoid it.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Helping the school community to understand and act on air pollution will help improve people's health and help meet the school's objectives on reducing air pollution.</p>	<p>The Clean Air Day school resources webpage gives you access to lots of school resources including; sample newsletters, leaflets and other top tips for engaging with the school community on air pollution.</p> <p>Air pollution forecasts can be found on the Clean Air Hub.</p> <p>Look at government guidance on creating individual health care plans.</p> <p>The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs releases air pollution alerts and notifications when pollution levels are high. Visit the website and text your families with the corresponding health advice.</p>


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<p>Teach students about air pollution through the curriculum</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>1) Organise an air quality focused assembly for your school</p> <p>An assembly is a great way to reach the whole school at once with information about air pollution. A class that has been learning about air quality could present their findings to the rest of the school. The assembly could also be used as a moment to launch other initiatives, such as a no-idling campaign.</p> <p>2) Lead action-focused lessons on air pollution with students of all ages</p> <p>Engage your students through activity kits, lesson plans, and tailored PowerPoint presentations.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group. The 'ready to go' resources have been reviewed by teachers and link to the current curriculum, assisting teachers through lesson plans and multi-subject topics.</p>	<p>Clean Air Day's 'assembly pack' provides ideas and materials to help you run an air pollution assembly.</p> <p>Browse our collection of curriculum-linked teaching resources that explore the topic of air pollution for different key stages. These include curriculum-based resources for subjects including PSHE, Geography, Maths, Science, Design, Art and English.</p> <p>Clean Air Day schools resources have been designed specifically for students in Key Stages 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>Healthy Air offer creative and practical teaching activities for Key Stages 1 and 2 with links in to National Curriculum Science, Maths and English.</p> <p>Greenpeace has created an air pollution teaching pack for Key Stage 2</p> <p>Introduce your students to the topic of air pollution through this fun, Lego stop-motion video from Arup.</p> <p>Grandma's Footsteps, and associated learning resources, is a story that encourages children to take note of changes in the environment around them, and to imagine what they want their own future to look like.</p>



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<p>Set heating to the 'right' temperature</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Heating costs increase by around 5-10% for every 1°C increase (Carbon Trust) so setting the right temperature reduces the school's carbon emissions.</p> <p>Setting the right temperature for everyone in school can be difficult but the Health and Safety legislation suggests a minimum of 18C in most teaching rooms and 15C in areas of circulation. It is also important to consider the times that the heating comes on and off part of effective heat regulation.</p> <p>1) Working with the Eco team find out who controls the heating.</p> <p>2) Discuss how the temperature is set.</p> <p>3) Make suggestions to reset the temperature controls and that they are adjusted to reflect different uses and activities in different areas or rooms.</p> <p>4) Check timers so they reflect actual hours of use and are set to the right date and time (particularly after the clocks go forward or back).</p> <p>5) Talk to the building's inhabitants to discuss the changes.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It will save school money on heating bills. Can improve the learning environment for students</p>	<p>The National Education Union offers advice on temperature settings in schools and workplaces whilst the Department of Education advice states that cutting back your heating for an hour a day can save another 5-10% on the bills.</p> <p>The Department for Education also has tips to reduce energy and water use in schools, which you can access here.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings " which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>



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<p>Create a rain garden in the school grounds</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Creating a rain garden helps alleviate localised flooding.</p> <p>A rain garden is designed to temporarily channel and contain rain water. Often on a slope it collects water run-off from roofs and hard surfaces into a depression in the ground. Like any garden the depression will be landscaped and planted according to the conditions.</p> <p>1) Talk to senior leaders about your idea.</p> <p>2) Consider the site and, if there is flooding, where the water comes from and runs to. Consider where a hole could be dug deep in order to be filled with materials that allow water to sit around them.</p> <p>3) Bring in expertise to help you consider the need, its position and the costs.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It keeps the air cooler, provides habitat and can look good.</p>	<p>If you want to see school rain garden there is a local garden at Moorlands Primary in Trafford, whilst the University of Salford have a demonstration rain garden on their campus called the Living Lab.</p> <p>Groundwork, City of Trees and the RHS have experience building rain gardens. Rain gardens can be expensive so it is worth exploring grants and getting quotations.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Provide more sustainable school dinners</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Having more sustainable food options can significantly reduce the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>The provision of sustainable food implies eating less meat and dairy, buying local, seasonal and organic food, purchasing Fair Trade or Marine Stewardship Council fish, wasting less food, growing your own and maintaining a balanced diet.</p> <p>1) Have discussions around food and climate change with pupils, kitchen staff, the business manager and senior leaders.</p> <p>2) Discuss whether there is a particular programme the school could join.</p> <p>3) Discuss whether changes can be made with your current food provider or needs to change.</p> <p>4) Research alternative providers.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>More sustainable food is often healthier.</p>	<p>Food for Life is The Soil Association's school food programme. Joining costs but it will guide school to more sustainable eating practices.</p> <p>Peasplease is a campaign from the Food Foundation which can help food providers increase the vegetable use in cooking. Organic North is an organic wholesale cooperative. Bite Back is a youth lead campaign organisation.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>

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Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Create an outdoor classroom</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Teaching outside is good for young people's health, fitness and well-being.</p> <p>An outdoor classroom is about defining an area where learning can occur. It can be as simple as using sawn logs to create a seating area, building a wooden roofed structure or landscaping an amphitheatre.</p> <p>1) Consider the sites available and the kind of classroom you want to provide.</p> <p>2) If it is forest school style it can be as simple as sourcing logs and an awning;</p> <p>3) If you need a wooden structure or the area needs landscaping you will need to find a suitable organisation to deliver your goals.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It is good for pupils to gain knowledge of local fauna and flora.</p>	<p>To create your own outdoor classroom you are likely to need sustainably sourced logs and woodchip.</p> <p>Treestation have a Community Benefit Scheme for their sustainably sourced wood-based products. There are also plenty of organisations that can help build structures or re-landscape an area. The Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Sow the City can help create a forest school's area whilst Groundwork can also re-landscape.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Improve insulation, pipe lagging and draft proofing</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Good insulation can make a big reductions to the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>Ensuring your school buildings are well insulated is key to becoming sustainable. Leaky buildings and unlagged pipes are responsible for wasting huge amounts of energy.</p> <p>1) Work with the site manager to check the insulation in the school roof. If it is not at the recommended depth increase it.</p> <p>2) Check whether the walls are insulated or could be insulated.</p> <p>3) If you have a hot water tank make sure it is insulated.</p> <p>4) Check any hot water pipes to make sure they are lagged.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It can also reduce your energy bills and enable effective use of a ground source heat pump.</p>	<p>The Department for Education have specific advice for schools whilst The Energy Saving Trust have more general advice. Make sure that if the walls are insulated that they the material is sustainably sourced and safe from fire hazard.</p> <p>Refer to Salix for financial support.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Reduce school related traffic pollution from deliveries and visitors</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>1) Provide electric vehicle charging points on site to encourage visitors to drive an electric vehicle</p> <p>For journeys that can't be walked, cycled or taken on public transport, choosing to drive an electric vehicle will produce less air pollution than a petrol or diesel vehicle. By providing an electric vehicle charging point at school you can help the transition to electric vehicles.</p> <p>2) Reduce air pollution from deliveries by reducing the number, arranging them to arrive at quieter times and opting for lower pollution delivery vehicles</p> <p>Reduce the number of delivery vehicles coming to your school by grouping deliveries together. Ask for deliveries to be made outside of peak hours to reduce congestion. And where possible choose providers that use cargo bikes or electric vans.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Reducing the number of delivery vehicles, choosing lower emission providers and encouraging the use of electric vehicles can help reduce noise pollution and provide a safer environment for students.</p>	<p>Check out TfL's: Efficient Deliveries guidance on lower pollution deliveries.</p> <p>Pod Point's Electric Schools Clean Air Campaign examines the role electric vehicles have to play in securing a clean air future.</p>
<p>Students to learn from and be inspired by climate innovators from around the world</p>  <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>It is key for students to see and understand they are not alone in caring for nature and the environment to encourage and inspire them to take action.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Young people will learn about actions people are taking around the world to tackle the climate crisis.</p>	<p>Share and discuss the case studies, videos and stories from around the world of those who have won the Ashen Climate award.</p>
<p>Explore the socio-environmental impacts of how we produce, consume and waste clothes</p>  <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>How our clothes are made, where we get them and how we consume them all have impacts on our environment as well as social implications. Students will gather a holistic understanding of the production, consumption and disposal of clothing.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Equips young people with the knowledge and actions needed to shape a more sustainable society.</p>	<p>The Behind the Seams toolkit is aimed at KS3 and KS4 but has been designed to be used as widely as possible. It contains six lesson plans across three themes "production, consumption and waste" and includes worksheets, slideshow presentations and factsheets to support educators to deliver lessons.</p>



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Become a FairAware School  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Begin your Fairtrade journey by becoming a FairAware school. FairAware is the first Fairtrade Schools Award and is about finding out where your school is in terms of understanding Fairtrade and using Fairtrade products.</p> <p>Your FairAware Award will last for two years giving you plenty of time to renew or think about moving on to the FairActive Award.</p>	<p>The following lesson kits, films and Fairtrade activities can support you and your school in understanding FairTrade.</p>
Learn about green careers  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Support students in exploring the various different types of careers out there and how all jobs can be green no matter what industry you choose to work in.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students consider how their values can inform their career choices in order to make a difference to their local and global community and how holding and acting upon these values can affect wellbeing. Positive impact on long-term decisions.</p>	<p>The PSHE Association worked in partnership with the Environment Agency to develop their Growing Careers for Positive Change teaching resource for Key Stage 4. It includes 2 lessons and accompanying resources which explore personal values and how these relate to our career choices and the decisions we make about our lives.</p>
Organise school staff CPD sessions relating to Climate and Sustainability  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Climate change and sustainability is a big topic, and we are not expected to know all the answers. However, whatever your role in a school and stage of your journey you are at, there is more training that you can do.</p>	<p>UK Schools Sustainability network have created an Inset training video for all Secondary school staff and includes thoughts, ideas and tips from over 30 individuals from across the UK - including teachers, students and representatives from various organisations - culminating in a call to action from Lord Jim Knight, former Minister of State for Schools. It is aimed at secondary schools and sixth-form colleges but some sections will be relevant to primary schools and other educational settings. All involved has rallied together to produce this short introduction to the issues of climate and sustainability, resources, what you can do and who is out there to support you.</p> <p>There are also various other free and paid (marked by a Â£) CPD options on the Transform Our World website.</p>

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<p>Hear from an expert on climate change</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Providing climate change education to students inspires young people to become passionate about learning about our global environment and how we can all come together to help protect it.</p>	<p>Wicked Weather Watch enables children to hear directly from those who have witnessed climate change first hand. Their fantastic volunteers who have either travelled to the Arctic or are experts in climate change, visit schools to tell children about their adventures and experiences.</p>
<p>Get your students to lead their own environmental project</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Empower students to lead a project on an environmental topic they care about. They will then be able to apply their learnings by taking action.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students develop skills on leading their very own project that will have a positive impact on their local area.</p>	<p>The WildED workshop programme consists of a series of 3 two-hour workshops where Action for Conservation supports young people to take action on environmental issues that are interesting and relevant to them.</p> <p>Students will develop an understanding of building environmental knowledge, project management and teamwork.</p> <p>"Action for Conservation has not just inspired our students but has also given them practical ways of acting on their inspiration. Their staff were friendly, engaging and highly effective at communicating the urgency and relevance of environmental conservation"</p> <p>Mr Jones, Brentside High School, Ealing</p>

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Implement traffic restrictions outside the school gate</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Hold a play street</p> <p>Work with parents/carers and the council to close the road outside your school for a few hours, run fun activities and games using the space the road provides when there are no cars and experience traffic-free, cleaner air streets.</p> <p>2) Close the road outside the school to cars permanently</p> <p>Work with your local authority to permanently remove cars from the street outside your school. Modal filters still allow for bicycle, pedestrian and emergency vehicle access, and a bus gate can provide access to buses, taxis and those with mobility issues.</p> <p>3) Organise a car free day</p> <p>Work with the local authority to close the road outside the school to vehicles for the day to experience traffic-free, cleaner air streets. Use the space to encourage active play and collect feedback from your school community on the types of temporary and permanent road closures to see if a permanent road closure is possible.</p> <p>4) Make your street a school street by adding traffic restrictions during school pick up and drop off times</p> <p>A school street closes the road to traffic during drop off and pick up times to discourage the use of cars to get to and from school.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>A car free day can be a useful trial towards a more permanent road closure. Removing cars from your street will encourage families to use active travel to get to school. This will have physical and mental health benefits, as well as reducing noise pollution.</p>	<p>Playing Out: Play Streets provides heaps of useful guidance and tip on organising a play street.</p> <p>Car Free Day and Clean Air Day are the perfect opportunities to hold a car free day.</p> <p>School Streets Initiative provides accessible information and guidance to empower local communities who want to see School Street schemes implemented.</p> <p>The 'Hackney School Streets Toolkit for professionals' is a detailed guide to setting up a school street scheme, ideal for working with local authorities.</p> <p>The 'Living Streets School Streets toolkit' is a guide to creating car-free school streets, ideal for teachers and community members.</p> <p>Check out our case study of a school tackling pavement parking with teddy bears in Newcastle.</p>
<p>Help your students cycle to school</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Cycle training helps to make bike journeys safe and enjoyable. Cycling training builds confidence and increases the likelihood of students cycling at an older age.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Cycling is an important life skill and provides physical and mental health benefits.</p>	<p>The Bikeability training teaches cycle safety skills such as good road positioning, signaling and visibility. Sustrans have resources available to help encourage children to cycle to school.</p>

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<p>Buy sustainably sourced, recycled paper</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>It takes 70% less energy to recycle paper than it does to make it new from raw materials. This lowers the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>Purchasing sustainably sourced recycled paper is good practice as it stops trees from being felled for paper and creates a market for recycled goods. It closes the loop between schools recycling their paper and buying back what has been recycled.</p> <p>1) Working with the Eco team find out what kind of paper school currently buys. Is it 100% recycled fibre; does it have the FSC paper mark (a mark of stewardship for sustainable forestry), or better still both? Is it chlorine bleached paper or chlorine free?</p> <p>2) Research the costs of different papers and make a proposal to the school administrator about what to purchase.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Saving trees from the sawmill.</p>	<p>The cost of paper needs to be considered but bulk buying with other schools would reduce the cost.</p> <p>Green Matters discusses eco-friendly paper.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>As a teacher calculate, track and reduce your environmental footprint using the Giki app</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Understanding your own environmental footprint can help you understand how your students and school could also reduce their footprint.</p>	<p>Giki Zero provides a personalized programme which helps people understand, track and reduce their carbon footprint and protect the environment. It's a tool for everyone with over 100 steps, tailored for every lifestyle, priority and budget.</p>

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Share air pollution reduction advice for when driving is essential</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Allocate a location for a Park and Stride</p> <p>A Park and Stride involves allocating a parking point for parents and carers away from the school (e.g. a public car park or supermarket or cinema car park) from where students can complete their journey on foot.</p> <p>2) Promote car sharing for those who need to drive</p> <p>Car clubs and car-share schemes can help reduce the number of cars on the road. Encourage staff and families who can't walk/cycle/scoot to school to share the school run with others.</p> <p>3) Implement a no idling zone around your school</p> <p>Make your school a no idling zone so that drivers always turn off their engines when stationary, and it is safe to do so.</p> <p>Co-benefits:</p> <p>Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.</p> <p>Car sharing can be cost-effective and sociable.</p> <p>Involving students in the campaign can provide opportunities for students to gain confidence in speaking and engagement.</p>	<p>Living Streets' 'Swap the whole ride for Park and Stride' is a guide to setting up a formal Park and Stride scheme as well as general guidance on encouraging walking to school.</p> <p>Sustrans provide guidance on car clubs and car sharing.</p> <p>Liftshare is car-share platform and includes advice on COVID-19 safe car sharing.</p> <p>Clean Air Day's 'No idling pack and leaflet' can help you run a no idling campaign with your school community.</p> <p>Take a look at our case study of a school campaigning against idling cars in Greater Manchester.</p>
<p>Set up a Goals for Good programme</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Goals for Good is a series of four, one-hour sessions to help young people explore how our values impact on our wellbeing and environment.</p> <p>It draws from research into positive psychology and sustainability to consider what really does, and doesn't, make us happy. Exploring feelings about what we own, and how we choose to spend our time, the course offers an approach to goal setting which cares about values, wellbeing and our planet.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students are able to reflect and recognise what they really care about and make positive decisions and goals going forward that are good for them and the planet.</p>	<p>Watch the following 90 second video to find out why Goals for Good was created.</p> <p>Meet Paddy and Emily, previous participants of the programme, to hear what they thought of the programme.</p>

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<p>Do a school energy audit and prioritise the top three actions</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Understanding the school's energy usage is an important step in identifying ways to save energy which will in turn reduce the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>An energy audit is a survey of the school's buildings and is the first step in identifying opportunities to reduce energy use and lower the school's carbon footprint. Do an audit and decide on three actions school needs to take to reduce energy use.</p> <p>1) Work with pupils to do an energy audit. School users will understand school energy from experience, such as cold and hot spots and provide behavioural knowledge.</p> <p>2) Employ a professional consultant to advise on energy efficiency and renewables. Look for a CIBSE accredited low carbon consultant.</p> <p>3) Check if your local authority has an energy manager who could advise.</p>	<p>MEEN has created an energy audit based on 3 different investigations. Check if your local authority has an energy manager as they should be able to advise.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our energy supply" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>

Actions you already do

Sign Up to the Let's Go Zero Campaign

Pathway: Campus

Create your own sustainable water gardens to grow your own fruit and veg

Pathway: Campus

Hold a Fairtrade assembly

Pathway: Curriculum

Designate a No Mow Zone in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus

Raise funds for your school or other causes by recycling unwanted clothes

Pathway: Community

Take action against habitat loss by developing habitats in your local area

Pathway: Community

Plant trees

Pathway: Campus

Install double or triple glazed windows

Pathway: Campus

Do a recycling audit and prioritise three actions

Pathway: Campus

Invest in heating controls from radiator thermostats to building solutions

Pathway: Campus