



**SANCTA  
FAMILIA**

CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

## **Climate and Sustainability Plan**

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Policy Owner:        | Executive Team |
| Review Cycle:        | Bi-Annually    |
| Date of last review: | September 2026 |
| Date of next review: | September 2028 |

## Contents

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Vision and Commitment .....          | 3 |
| Baseline Position .....              | 3 |
| Climate Risks and Resilience .....   | 3 |
| Strategic Priorities.....            | 3 |
| Targets .....                        | 3 |
| Governance and Accountability.....   | 3 |
| Training and Engagement .....        | 3 |
| Monitoring and Reporting .....       | 4 |
| Implementation Timeline .....        | 4 |
| A. Decarbonisation.....              | 4 |
| B. Adaptation and Resilience .....   | 4 |
| C. Biodiversity and Environment..... | 4 |
| Risks and Mitigation .....           | 4 |
| Review .....                         | 4 |

## Vision and Commitment

We are committed to supporting the UK net zero target, reducing environmental impact, and embedding sustainability across all our schools.

## Baseline Position

We provide carbon and energy reporting as part of our annual reports. With new schools joining, we aim to produce a baseline to establish energy consumption and emissions. This should give us a starting position across primary and secondary schools. We plan to undertake energy reviews at each school to understand the current position with recommendations on how to reduce carbon emissions and use of energy. Any replacement or refurbishment of buildings will include consideration of energy efficiencies.

## Climate Risks and Resilience

As part of our plan, we aim to also consider climate risk such as overheating in warm weather / extreme weather and consider ways to mitigate these risks.

## Strategic Priorities

To support the beginning of our plans we aim to look at the following strategic priorities:

**Decarbonisation:** Energy audits, including installing LED lighting.

**Travel:** Promote sustainable transport and install EV charging units at schools.

**Procurement:** Reduce waste and improve sustainability.

**Education:** Embed climate learning.

**Biodiversity:** Improve green spaces.

## Targets

- Appoint a Trust Sustainability Lead by September 2026.
- Appoint an Estates Lead by April 2027.
- Establish Sustainability Champions in 100% of schools by April 2027.
- Launch Student Eco-Councils in all schools by September 2027.

## Governance and Accountability

Board oversight will be provided at Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meetings through the Estates Strategy with regular updates given. The CFO will work with Regional Hubs and the Sustainability Lead to support school delivery.

## Training and Engagement

- Develop sustainability champion at each school.

- Ensure 100% of schools host at least two sustainability-themed events per academic year.
- Launch a Trust-wide Eco-Awards Scheme by 2028.

## Monitoring and Reporting

- Publish the first Annual Sustainability Report by end 2026-2027 school year.
- Use DfE's Sustainability Support for Education platform for tracking from September 2027.
- Conduct annual stakeholder surveys to assess awareness and engagement.

## Implementation Timeline

### A. Decarbonisation

- Complete baseline carbon audit for all schools by end of 2026-2027 school year.
- Reduce Trust-wide carbon emissions by 25% by 2030, aiming for Net Zero by 2050.
- Retrofit at least 80% of schools with LED lighting and smart heating by 2028.
- Conduct solar PV feasibility studies by 2028, with implementation in at least 30% of schools by 2030.

### B. Adaptation and Resilience

- Complete climate risk assessments for all sites by end of 2026-2027 school year.
- Implement climate resilience measures in all high-risk schools by 2030.
- Plant at least 500 trees Trust-wide by 2030.
- Install green infrastructure in 25% of schools by 2030.

### C. Biodiversity and Environment

- Register all schools with the National Education Nature Park by 2027.
- Establish or enhance biodiversity areas in 100% of schools by 2028.
- Integrate biodiversity projects into the curriculum in all schools by 2027.
- Organise at least one community conservation event across the Trust per year.

## Risks and Mitigation

Once a Trust Sustainability Lead has been appointed, the CEO / CFO will work with the lead to identify and mitigate any risks, along with identifying any budget or limitations to the plan.

## Review

- Conduct annual reviews of the Climate Action Plan with stakeholder input.
- Update the plan every 2 years to reflect new guidance and progress.



# **SANCTA FAMILIA**

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