



Wistaston Church Lane
Academy

Climate & Sustainability Action Plan 2024-2028

Wistaston Church Lane Academy is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably to better our future and that of future generations. A part of WCLA's vision and values is Community, whereby we look at how our actions and words can reflect positively on others, not just ourselves.

Our Climate and Sustainability Team consists of:

- Principal
- Vice Principal
- School Business Manager
- Office Administrators
- Sustainability Lead
- Site Manager/ Maintenance Team
- Waste Warriors (Pupil Group)
- Sustainability Lead Governor

This plan is split into 2 sections:

Section 1: Commitment to change with the actions we are already taking

Section 2: Action Plan for change

Section 1

Wistaston Church Lane Academy commits to continue with the following actions:

	Action	DfE Link	Responsibility
Curriculum			
1	We continue to seek out good practice to get inspired and share learning with other education settings on learning about climate change. This also includes external companies visiting school to deliver seminars related to the environment and climate change.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
2	Provide pupils with the opportunities to explore climate and sustainability through a variety of activities e.g. Workshops, Guest Speakers, Live Lessons. Ensure that all classes access a lesson, workshop or assembly focusing on climate and sustainability each year.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
3	Provide opportunities for pupils to learn about Green Careers through topic-based work. Children will have opportunities to study a green career as part of our Green Careers Week.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
Food			
1	Waste Warriors will work to combat food waste by noting waste at lunch times and feeding back to the kitchen.	Decarbonisation	Sustainability Lead
2	Students are educated about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to act in school and at home.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
3	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.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
4	Meals are managed in a way which means pupils can select at the dining counter –ensuring they are choosing something they want to eat, alongside reducing wastage of over cooking through pre orders.	Adaptation and Resilience	Business Manager
Outdoor Space			
1	Maintain the bird boxes around the school grounds and make new ones when appropriate.	Improving the environment and Biodiversity	Site Manager/ Maintenance Team

2	'No Mow Zone' created on the school field to encourage	Improving the environment and Biodiversity	Site Manager/ Maintenance Team
3	Climate and Sustainability after school clubs which allow pupils to focus on key issues and develop meaningful experiences.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Climate Team
Waste			
1	At WCLA, we continually work to minimise our paper use. All staff printing accounts now send documents to 'hold' on the photocopier to reduce photocopying errors.	Decarbonisation	Business Manager
2			
Air Quality			
1	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.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead Science Lead
2	Air quality monitors around the school show the air quality is good –this is monitored regularly.	Adaptation and Resilience	Business Manager
Travel			
1	Bikeability training offered to year 4 and 5 children	Decarbonisation	Business Manager
2	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	Decarbonisation	Site Manager/ Maintenance Team
3	School visitor trips to reduce coach travel emissions in the community and surrounding areas.	Decarbonisation	Business Manager
Energy			
1	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use.	Decarbonisation	Business Manager Class teachers
2	All corridor & bathroom lighting is on presence detectors.	Decarbonisation	Site Manager/ Maintenance Team
3	Solar panels installed to reduce emissions.	Decarbonisation	Site Manager/ Maintenance Team
Water			
1	New starters are provided with a reusable water bottle.	Climate education and Green Careers	Business Manager
2	Incorporate local water scarcity and hazard risks into curriculum plans to promote a culture of water conservation.	Climate education and Green Careers	Sustainability Lead Geography Lead

Section 2: Action Plan for change

Action	DfE Link	Target/Measure	Timescale	Responsibility	Impact/Evaluation
Curriculum					
Review current links to climate and sustainability across the curriculum.	Climate education and Green Careers	Staff to review year group curriculums and document climate and sustainability links.	End of Summer 2025	Subject leaders Sustainability lead	
Embed explicit climate and sustainability links into curriculum planning.	Climate education and Green Careers	Clear links to climate and sustainability will be highlighted/shown on curriculum overviews/pages.	To be fully embedded by the end of Autumn 2025	Subject leaders Sustainability lead	
Develop pupils understanding of the natural environment and environmental issues.	Climate education and Green Careers	Clear evidence of subject integration with outdoor learning activities and field studies in the local area.	To be started by the end of Autumn 2025	Sustainability lead Class teachers	
Develop staff understanding and knowledge of how to embed climate and sustainability into the curriculum.	Climate education and Green Careers	Continued CPD throughout the year for staff to access.	Ongoing	Sustainability lead Principal/ Vic Principal	
Pupils to take more of an active role in energy saving efforts.	Climate education and Green Careers	Classroom monitor roles to be given at the start of the year.	September 2025	Sustainability Lead Class teachers	
Food					
Consider ways to reduce non-food waste in the dinner hall.	Decarbonisation	Conduct an initial waste audit and aim to reduce non-food waste (e.g. packaging, plastic cutlery, disposable trays) by 25% over a school term.	End of Autumn 2025	Sustainability lead Kitchen staff	
Outdoor Space					

Create an outdoor classroom space/Forest school area to provide staff and pupils a space to learn outside of the classroom and become more responsible citizens.	Adaptation and Resilience	Schedule at least one outdoor learning session per class per half term. Gather feedback from staff and pupils via a short survey, aiming for 80%+ positive responses about the space's impact on learning and wellbeing.	Autumn 2025	Climate team	
Consider how we can use our school environment to increase biodiversity e.g. grow our own fruit and vegetables by making raised beds, make bird boxes/bird feeders.	Improving the environment and Biodiversity	Install a minimum of 2 raised beds and plant at least 3 types of fruit/vegetable crops by the end of the term.	Spring 2026	Climate team	
Waste					
Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products.	Decarbonisation	Ensure recycling bins are clearly labelled and available in every classroom and shared area.	By the end of Autumn 2025	Site Manager	
Encourage staff to provide fewer photocopiable resources and instead have them displayed on the Interactive Whiteboard.	Decarbonisation	Encourage each class to trial at least one paperless lesson per week.	By the end of Autumn 2025	Sustainability lead Class teachers	
Clear recycling systems in place which encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own recycling.	Decarbonisation	Introduce a colour-coded recycling system with pupil-friendly signage in all classrooms. Assign weekly "Recycling Monitors" from each class to check correct bin use.	By the end of Autumn 2025	Site Manager	
Air Quality					
Create a 'clean air' zone around the school by encouraging parents/carers to always switch off engines outside school, consider parents	Adaption and Resilience	Launch a "Clean Air Zone" campaign with signage and parent communication. Poster competition in school – best posters displayed around	To be started by October 2025	Sustainability lead Climate team Class teachers Principal/ Vice Principal	

parking elsewhere and walking to reduce pollution levels in and around school premises.		school, on newsletter, website etc.			
Encourage children to choose walking /cycling routes to school to decrease traffic and pollution.	Climate education and Green Careers	Encourage pupils and staff to take part in the 'Walk to School Week' Posters set up around school to encourage alternative routes and the difference this can make to our environment.	Summer 2026	Sustainability lead Climate team Class teachers Principal/ Vice Principal	
Travel					
Complete the school census 'mode of travel' question to provide a baseline of mode of travel to school data.	Climate education and Green Careers	Complete census to create a baseline.	September 2025	Sustainability lead Business Manager	
Encourage staff and pupils to change the way they travel to school.	Climate education and Green Careers	Posters set up around school to encourage alternative routes and the difference this can make to our environment.	September 2025	Sustainability lead Climate team	
Energy					
Heating controls to be used to limit timings and temperature across school	Decarbonisation	Heating controls in place and working at the correct temperatures.	September 2025	Site Manager/ Team	
Measure, record and publicise savings.	Decarbonisation	Measure energy use throughout the year and keep records updated. Publicise in school.	July 2025	Site Manager/ Team	
Water					
Encourage staff, parents and pupils to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups.	Climate education and Green Careers	Encourage pupils to purchase school reusable bottles/ bring their own into school. Fewer one use plastic items being used.	July 2025	Business Manager	

Install water butts around the school grounds to collect rainwater for watering plants and vegetable boxes.	Adaptation & Resilience	Water butts set up near suitable guttering/pipes where water overflow occurs. This water can then be used to water flowers, plant areas, gardening patches.	By the end of Summer 2026/ Autumn 2026	Business Manager Site Manager/ Maintenance Team	
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