



Small Steps – Big Impact

St. Luke's Church of England School

Sustainability Lead: Harrison Littler

Who to turn to for more information:

School Sustainability Lead

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TWT Sustainability Team

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Our Sustainability Mission Statement

Our family of Ted Wragg Trust schools are committed to fostering a sustainable future by implementing school-based Climate Action Plans. These plans demonstrate our collective commitment to environmental stewardship, aiming to empower our students, staff, and our local communities to contribute meaningfully to a healthier planet.

Together, we embark on this journey toward a greener future, understanding that every small step contributes to the larger goal of environmental sustainability.

Background to the Climate Action Plan

Department of Education Guidance

Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education

The [sustainability and climate change strategy for education](#) states: “By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan”. This includes early years settings, schools, multi-academy trusts, colleges, and universities.

Further information - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sustainability-leadership-and-climate-action-plans-in-education>

Year 1:

Quick win options and understanding where we are – establishing base information.

‘Securing our roots’ to grow in the future. Simple successes will build momentum.

Year 2:

Establish a plan of what we can do within the capability of our school.

This will allow us to **‘expand our reach’** and grow our ambitions.

Year 3:

Realise the change we have made – reflecting on what has worked and where the next challenge is.

Can we **‘sustain our success’**? Sustainability of progress is at the heart of our approach.

Timeline for this year:

Date	Action	By Whom
Autumn Term		
Thursday 26th September	Launch of Climate Action Plan at Sustainability Conference	All Sustainability Leads, TWT Sustainability Team
Friday 12 th December	Publish Climate Action Plan to school website.	Schools
Spring Term		
February - TBC	Online Sustainability Lead Network Meeting	All Sustainability Leads & TWT Sustainability Team
Summer Term		
May – TBC with each school	Review of Climate Action Plan with TWT Estates – on site visit	All Sustainability Leads & TWT Sustainability Team
Wednesday 24 th June	Summer Sustainability Conference @ Great Moor House	All Sustainability Leads, TWT Sustainability Team, Sustainability Governors

What does progress or success look like?

1. Our schools have a **lower impact on Climate Change** than at the start of the programme
2. Our **school community is more pro-active** in addressing issues of climate change and engage in the Climate Action Plan.
3. **Sustainability Lead is truly the Climate Action Facilitator** and has engaged others to deliver on objectives identified in the school's Climate Action Plan. Their role has been sustainable to them.

Lots of small steps across our family of trust schools will make a big impact.

“the whole is greater than the sum of its parts” Aristotle

There are a number of identified ‘pillars’ that will help guide us through this journey.

5 Pillars of the Climate Action Plan

1. Leadership and Policy
2. Decarbonisation
3. Biodiversity
4. Adaptation and Resilience
5. Climate Education and Green Skills



This is more than just a government strategy – it is our opportunity to empower our community to make small steps in the right direction.



Leadership and Policy

Our Trust leadership and your school leadership have made a commitment to this Climate Action Plan.

Statement of intent:

“Our family of Ted Wragg Trust schools is committed to leading with purpose in building a sustainable future. Through our Climate Action Plans, we aim to embed sustainability into all aspects of decision-making—from purchases and transport choices to resource management—ensuring that environmental considerations are central to our strategic actions.

We recognise that effective leadership in sustainability requires both securing our roots and expanding our reach: safeguarding the foundations of our schools while innovating to amplify our impact on students, staff, and the wider community. By aligning our policies and practices with these values, we sustain our success and demonstrate responsible stewardship of the planet, inspiring others to join us on this journey toward a greener, more resilient future.”





Decarbonisation

Scoring -



Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Run a switch-off campaign to encourage staff and pupils to turn off unused lights, appliances, and electronics. Check energy consumption the week before, the week of the switch off and a few weeks later. Include Letting use of floodlights. 0800-1600 – manual	A switch-off campaign raises awareness about energy consumption and encourages simple behavioural changes to reduce waste. Schools can run competitions, put up reminder posters, and conduct audits to track energy savings. Engaging pupils through classroom discussions can make energy efficiency a long-term habit.	JGR	Week or Month			No costs except promotional materials. Time to launch and supporting during event			Reduces unnecessary electricity usage, lowering the school's carbon footprint	
Energy Consumption monitoring.	Monitor smart meters to review energy consumption at different times of day, the week, weekends and holidays.	SLT	Month			Schools that have smart meters can monitor this on a 30 minute basis. Should be able to access via a website. Schools without will			This will allow the school to save energy/money by not heating/running appliances outside of core hours.	

						transition to Smart Meters soon.				
Switch off Days	Have specific days when there is a school focus on 'Switching off' This may be more practical to do in the spring/summer term.	SLT	Week		 	Use school signage / display boards to promote.			This is a first step in saving energy – not easy to monitor without smart meters	
Public sector decarbonisation scheme	Explore whether public sector decarbonisation scheme could be used in PFI context. This could provide grant funding for e.g. solar panels or LED lighting	SLT	Month		 	If eligible, further planning will need to take place	  	  		
Commuter survey	A commuter survey to understand the % of different types of travel to school.	RAD	Month							



Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost	Time	Notes	Envi Impact	Cost Impact	Notes	Date Completed
				Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)		Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)		
Develop the 'Pollinator Patch'	Work with the student Ecology Club to further develop the Pollinator Patch	RAD	Term		  	The team have introduced a 'no-mow period' with our grounds contractors	 		Providing habitat for various flora and fauna. Many flowering plants are being supported, including cowslips.	

						Can the space be expanded to another area?				
Planting Trees	Planting 100 young trees - Wild harvest pack. An array of fruits and nuts to produce your own jams, jellies and wines, or provide extra food for wildlife.	RAD	Term		 	We have identified an area where this would be appropriate and are seeking appropriate permissions.	  			
Provide support for hedgehogs – possibly with the use of Trust wildlife cameras	Consider a range of strategies to support the resident population of hedgehogs on our site (recently spotted)	RAD	Term		 	Could again be led by the Ecology Club – providing physical protected spaces and encouraging diverse food sources.				
Join the national or local educational nature park program to enhance outdoor learning.	Schools can participate in local or national education nature park programs to connect pupils with nature-based learning experiences. These programs provide hands-on engagement with biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability. By participating, pupils gain a deeper appreciation of the environment, and schools can access valuable teaching resources and support for outdoor learning initiatives.	SLT	term		  	Resources to support your biodiversity journey. Help available to come to your site.	 		Encourages nature conservation and awareness of climate action. No direct financial benefits but long-term educational value.	
Participate in the RSPB Birdwatch	Schools can engage pupils in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Birdwatch, an	RAD	2 weeks		 	No cost; resources are provided by the RSPB.	 		Does not save money but promotes and awareness of nature in	

Take part in a national birdwatch survey to monitor local wildlife.	annual citizen science event where participants record and report bird sightings. This initiative helps develop observation skills, raises awareness of biodiversity, and contributes valuable data for conservation efforts.					Requires scheduling time for participation and data submission			your school	
Carry out a habitat survey	Schools can conduct nature surveys to document the species of plants, insects, and animals found on school grounds. This information can help identify areas for biodiversity improvement, such as adding nesting boxes, planting native species, or reducing pesticide use. Engaging pupils in biodiversity monitoring promotes conservation awareness and scientific curiosity.	SLT				No significant cost, beyond materials for recording observations.			No direct impact but fosters school-wide conservation awareness. No direct financial savings, but potentially could be dependent on the findings of the survey.	



Adaptation & Resilience

Scoring -

Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Env Impac t Score (1-5)	Cost Impac t Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Consider tree planting for additional shade in key spaces	Tree planting in strategic areas will reduce overheating in the summer in some classrooms. More mature trees would be preferable for this purpose to reduce the timeframe for impact.	SLT	Year			This may be expensive and will require permissions to be sought. Also leads to biodiversity gain.				
Consider a switch to refillable whiteboard markers and stationery to reduce plastic waste.	Remove standard whiteboard markers that are single-use, contributing to plastic waste. Schools can transition to refillable options, reducing landfill waste and lowering procurement costs in the long run.	SLT	Term			Initial cost of refillable products may be higher but provides long-term savings. Immediate implementation possible			Saves money over time by purchasing refills instead of new products Reduces plastic production and waste disposal emissions	
Fit solar film on windows in key areas e.g., music rooms	Installing solar film on windows helps regulate indoor temperatures by reducing heat gain in summer and heat loss in	KMO	6 month			Moderate cost, but provides long-term energy savings and			Reduces energy consumption for heating and cooling, lowering overall	

Apply solar film to windows to reduce heat gain and energy consumption.	winter. This reduces the reliance on air conditioning and heating systems, leading to lower energy consumption and improved comfort in classrooms. Solar film also reduces glare, protects furniture from UV damage, and extends the lifespan of interior materials by preventing sun-related wear.					improved classroom comfort. Quick installation with minimal disruption to school activities			carbon emissions. Lowers utility bills by improving thermal efficiency, reducing air conditioning reliance	
Audit and Reduce Single-Use Plastics used in catering Identify and eliminate unnecessary plastic waste in catering operations.	Schools can conduct an audit of their plastic use, identifying areas where single-use plastics can be eliminated or replaced with sustainable alternatives. This includes plastic cutlery, straws, and packaging materials. Encouraging the use of reusable water bottles and lunch containers can also contribute to waste reduction.		Month			Minimal costs associated with switching to reusable alternatives Conducting an audit and implementing changes requires planning.	  	 	Reduces plastic production and landfill waste. Saves costs on disposable plastic products.	
Switch to Recycled Paper for Printing Use recycled paper to reduce deforestation and waste.	Schools can significantly reduce their environmental impact by switching to recycled or FSC-certified paper for printing. Recycled paper manufacturing requires less water and energy compared to virgin paper, reducing carbon emissions. Schools should also consider digital alternatives to minimise paper use.		Week			Slightly higher costs than regular paper, but bulk purchasing can offset this. Immediate implementation possible with supplier changes.	 	 	Reduces emissions from paper production and waste processing. Long-term savings by reducing overall paper consumption	

Source Cleaning Products with Eco-Certifications. Use biodegradable and non-toxic cleaning products.	Traditional cleaning products contain harmful chemicals that can pollute water and air. Schools can transition to eco-friendly alternatives certified by environmental agencies, reducing exposure to toxins and supporting sustainability efforts.					Some eco-friendly products may be slightly more expensive. Immediate switch possible with supplier adjustments			Reduces pollution from chemical runoff. Long-term health benefits reduce medical costs.	
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Climate Education and Green Skills

Scoring -



Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
A campaign to educate all staff on use of the green bins. Waste audit – ask fusion to use clear plastic bin bags for the days ahead of the audit. Remember PPE – gloves and glasses. How much on a day goes to landfill instead of recycle.	Work with staff to increase the volume of recycling and reduce landfill	KMO	3 weeks			At present, many of these bins are underutilised.				
Organise a walk to school week Promote and encourage a Walk to School week as a means of raising awareness of the effects of commuting and transport.	Encouraging pupils and staff to walk, bike, or use public transport instead of driving can reduce emissions and improve local air quality. A Walk to School Week helps raise awareness about the environmental and health benefits of active travel.	SLT				Costs may include promotional materials, but overall budget impact is low. Staff time is required to plan, organize, and promote the event.			Encourages a reduction in car journeys, thereby lowering emissions. No direct monetary benefit, though it could save parents on fuel costs.	

Create a School Eco Committee Establish a pupil-led group to drive sustainability initiatives.	A school eco committee gives pupils the opportunity to lead sustainability projects, influence school policies, and advocate for environmental improvements. This initiative fosters leadership, encourages responsibility	JGR RAD			 	No cost beyond organising meetings. Requires commitment to regular meetings and project work	 		Leads to long-term environmental improvements Indirect financial benefits through improved sustainability practices.	
Met Office Climate Boot Camp Make use of the TWT Met Office Partnership	This is a program of activities, careers education activities for schools. Pupils attend the Met Office for a day to undertake a workshop. On their return to school, they can share and engage others.	LBO			  	The programme is already set up for schools. Time co-ordinating and preparing pupils – Careers lead.	 		Pupils who attend are engaged more deeply with careers in the green economy. No cost savings	