



Climate action plan

As part of the Department for Education's (DfE) requirements, the plans must include at least one action from these four key areas:

1. decarbonisation
2. biodiversity
3. adaptation and resilience
4. climate education and green careers goals

At Essendine the school council, business manager and sustainability team have evaluated the four categories and established that **climate education** and **reducing waste and improving recycling** are our priorities.

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Steps</i>	<i>Timeline for the action or expected completion date</i>	<i>Resources</i>
Establishing the baseline.	Examine ▪ how much energy our school buildings use and what is already in place to reduce energy use. ▪ waste generation	▪ Measure energy usage across a week by taking readings. ▪ Record the daily waste by visiting classrooms and staff room and noting how much	Dec 2025	People / time



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	▪ water usage ▪ how transport is used to get to and from the school	waste there is and the type (bin inspection) ▪ Look at Water use communication from provider. This is already monitored by business manager MF. ▪ Transport survey of children		
Decarbonisation School already has begun introducing solar panels, it uses LED lights, heating switched off in communal areas in the main building including corridors. The	Identify any areas of unnecessary energy use	1. Monitor energy use through walk arounds focusing on: • lights being left on • computers being left on	Autumn term (when lights are needed) Summer term 2025 June 2nd, 5th for air conditioner. Autumn term dates for heating	



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school has a SMART meter.		2. Survey around use of air conditioner/heating in staff room– are they being left on? 3. Raise awareness and set expectations of energy use with staff and children.	(temperatures and use in empty rooms) Autumn 1 (2025)	
Biodiversity The school already has some trees and plants on site- including a Science Garden, EYFS/Sensory Garden and an Apple Orchard Area. Children recently did insect hunts and as a result we put 'bug hotels' around the	Make links with the Forest School at Paddington Rec. Apple Orchard Project with emphasis on celebrating and exploring the biodiversity of the school as well as learning about how best to care for it.	Grant application for Forest School at Pad Rec Develop weekly Gardening Clubs Use of the Science Garden in lessons	June 2025 September 2025	



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school to attract insects.				
Climate education Currently Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 look at biodiversity, being 'green' and the human impact on natural resources.	Establish a climate focus for the school council. Raise awareness of how we can reduce waste and energy use based on the data and chosen focus. Forest School	Identify partnerships for supporting sustainability: Eco schools' work. Embed sustainability foci into each half term Participate in key dates across the year. Forest school links with Pad Rec	Map out in July 2025, implement from September 2025	
Waste, consumption and recycling	Reduce the consumption of paper and increase recycling.	Review the curriculum and its implementation in terms of worksheets and additional paper usage Set rules and expectations around waste disposal for classrooms. Provide the necessary resources and training to implement them.	Summer 2 (2025) September 2025	



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Action plan goal: Establishing a baseline

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans) (optional)	Tools, resources and information (optional)	Funding opportunities (optional)
Understand your school's waste by conducting a bin audit.	Conduct bin audit. Review findings and propose recommendations to reduce or recycle waste.	1 month	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free if using above tools	None	How to do a plastic waste bin audit - Plastic Free July Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools	Free



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Understand your school's energy efficiency by conducting a review of energy use.	Review the Recommendation Report from your Display Energy Certificate [DEC] to understand the schools' energy efficiency.	1 month	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free – done in house	None	Energy efficiency: guidance for the school and further education college estate - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	Free
Understand your pollution risk by identifying sources of air pollution and using the local monitors of air quality.	Review pollution levels of schools Conduct air quality survey using local measuring equipment Liaise with airquality@westminster.com and their action plan.	1 month	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free- monitors already in place locally	Air quality	London Air Quality Network. Mayor's school air quality audit programme Breathe London airquality@westminster.com	
Understand your curriculum by reviewing for	Review curriculum to understand where	1 month	Staff: Education staff, operational	Air quality	Our City, our world Conceptual milestones And key vocabulary (ourcityyourworld.co.uk)	Free



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climate change content.	climate change/ careers features/ could feature.		staff, SLT Cost: Free- several projects offer opportunities		<u>Tracked changes project</u>	
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Action plan goal: Climate education

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans) (optional)	Tools, resources and information (optional)	Funding opportunities (optional)
Establish an Eco council with children and adults to undertake projects and raise	Identify volunteers Register with Eco school program Review the school audit	September (month) 1 day		Crosses over with reducing waste and emissions. Includes more people to		



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awareness	Select foci for each half term to promote and teach about sustainability	1 day then monthly meetings with interim tasks		undertake tasks.		
Share with staff and pupils what climate change action we are taking by promoting successes and achievements	Assemblies, newsletters. Get students involved through the school council and Eco council work.	1 day	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free	Relevant to all action plan goals		Free
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by inviting external	Arrange for external speakers to come into school to run workshops/ talks.	1 week	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free- several projects offer	None	Eco Active's Green Influencers Scheme Energy Garden Climate Ed Education	Free



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speakers to come into school.			opportunities		Business Alliance – Education Business Alliance (southwarkeba.org.uk)	
Increase our school's knowledge of climate change initiatives by joining a climate network.	Research networks and decide which is the best for your school to keep up to date with latest information and opportunities. Sign up to the network. Start engaging with network, attend meetings, read newsletters etc.	1 day, then ongoing	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free	None	Sustainable city charter: https://www.westminster.gov.uk/fairer-environmental-action-organisation/sustainable-city-charter Home - Eco Schools (eco-schools.org.uk)	Free



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Action plan goal: waste reduction and recycling

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans) (optional)	Tools, resources and information (optional)	Funding opportunities (optional)
Encourage reuse by running second-hand uniform event.	Run a uniform event at school for second hand uniform exchange and purchase.	1 week	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Free	None	Uniform	Free
Reduce waste by banning single use plastic water bottles.	Newsletter to inform parents Offer discounted reusable water bottles for children.	1 week, ongoing	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team Cost: Low	Climate Education and Green Careers		Coastal Fountain Fund 2024 Sea-Changers



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Increase recycling by improving recycling facilities in the school.	Ensure that all classrooms have a recycling bin. Reduce the number of 'general waste' bins and put them in communal areas Recruit dedicated recycling monitors to support staff and students.	1 week – ongoing	Staff: Education staff, operational staff, senior leadership team Cost: Low	None		
Increase our school's knowledge of waste, consumption and recycling by running a campaign at school to:	Advertise in newsletters. Hold assemblies and lessons. Run poster competition for students. Advertise on	1 month	Staff: Education staff, senior leadership team Cost: Varying	Climate Education and Green Careers	Home Race against waste Educator Hub - Junk Kouture	



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• remove single use plastics • promote recycling, repairing, reusing, and reducing waste.	website. Join a competitive challenge.					
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