



Climate Change and Sustainability Action Plan

“At St Teresa’s we have an ambitious vision to work in partnership with families, the church and wider community to prepare all our children with the knowledge, skills, values and behaviours that they will need in order to flourish, reach their potential and enjoy fullness of life.”

John 10:10

Mission Statement



Mission Statement

We love God and each other and follow the example of St. Teresa of Lisieux.

We enjoy learning together and doing our best in a happy, healthy and welcoming community.

We learn to be responsible and caring citizens.

“Let us do little things well today.”

St. Teresa of Lisieux

St Teresa's Catholic Primary school is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. Healthy is a key school value at our school:

Healthy (healthy body, healthy mind, healthy world):

We provide opportunities to go beyond personal health and consider a 'healthy world'. Through our curriculum and additional provision children explore not just their role in helping the environment but in how they can shape their community and the world they will grow up in.

Our climate change team consists of:

- The School Business Manager
- Headteacher
- Teachers
- Caretaker
- Eco Warriors (pupil group)
- Named climate Governor

The plan is split into two sections:

- Section 1: Commitment to continue with the actions we are already taking
- Section 2: Action Plan for change

Commit to continue with the following actions:

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
Curriculum			
1	Climate education and green careers	We have a whole school approach which incorporates climate change into the curriculum and school life.	Teaching Staff
2	Climate education and green careers	We continue to seek out good practice to get inspired and share learning with other education settings on learning about climate change.	Teaching Staff
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, worships and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the students to help the environment.	Teaching Staff
4	Climate education and green careers	The School Curriculum at is designed to teach young people about nature in their local area, for example different types of land and habitats, how they are managed, flora and fauna and weather patterns.	Teaching Staff
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home.	Teaching Staff
Waste			
1	Decarbonisation	We will continue to work to minimise our paper usage e.g. Keep printing to a minimum, reminders to only print when necessary, photocopier default set to print on both sides. Use of technology to reduce paper. (Seesaw).	Business Manager / Headteacher
2	Decarbonisation	Clear recycling systems in place: clear expectations on what can be recycled. Separate recycling bins, clearly labelled. Recycling separated and pupils and staff educated about the value of resources.	Caretaker / Teaching staff
3	Decarbonisation	Second hand uniform shop available to parents.	FOST
4	Decarbonisation	Paperless communication with parents, where possible.	Office Staff
5	Decarbonisation	Records Management system in place to reduce the amount of information saved on network drives and on the cloud.	Business Manager/ ICT
6	Biodiversity	Waste management on site for pupil's snack waste. Food waste separated by kitchen and collected for composting.	Caretaker
7	Biodiversity	Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils / green team. Community litter picks with families.	All pupils
8	Decarbonisation	Uniforms / costumes and relevant clothes bank at school regularly used by parents and staff	FOST / senior leadership team
Food			
1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste.	Catering Manager/ Caretaker

2	Climate education and green careers	Students are educated about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home.	Teaching Staff
3	Climate education and green careers	Promote more vegetarian options. The menu includes a meat free every Friday We have 2 vegetarian and 1 meat option Monday - Thursday.	Catering Manager

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
4	Climate education and green careers	Menus are planned in advance to be appealing. Meals are planned in line with Government guidelines.	Catering Manager
5	Climate education and green careers	Lunch time is managed to reduce queuing time and to ensure all pupils are given time to eat and time to play to reduce food waste due to pupils feeling they do not have enough time to eat.	Headteacher
6	Climate education and green careers	Meals are managed in a way which means pupils can choose what they want for lunch - ensuring they are choosing something they want to eat, alongside reducing wastage of over cooking through pre-orders.	Business Manager Catering Manager
Air Quality			
1	Climate education and green careers	Children are encouraged to come to school on foot, bike, scooter to reduce pollution near school. There is a bike rack and scooter pod on site. We also promote fuel free Friday, where families are rewarded traveling to school without the use of fuel.	Senior leadership team/ caretaker
2	Biodiversity	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality. Science garden / vegetable garden and bio diversity audit.	Headteacher / caretaker / volunteer / science lead
3	Climate education and green careers	At KS2 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.	Teaching Staff
4	Climate education and green careers	Students take part in science activities to monitor air quality levels on the school site and nearby areas. Media stories are shared with pupils about air quality and pollution.	Teaching Staff
5	Adaptation and resilience	Window maintenance plan in place to help air circulate better, improving student health and reducing their exposure to air pollution.	Headteacher-Business Manager - Caretaker
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	Walking to school is encouraged encourage, pupils have access to scooter pods and bike racks. Fuel free Friday is encouraged.	Headteacher
2	Decarbonisation	Bikeability training offered to all pupils in year 6	Year 6 Teacher
3	Decarbonisation	Parents/Carers of pupils in upper key stage 2 are encouraged to allow their children to be responsible for getting themselves to and from school.	Year 6 Teacher
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use. Eco group encourage and advertise better energy use through annual posters.	Headteacher -Business Manager- Caretaker / eco group
2	Decarbonisation	Energy costs are monitored monthly and concerns investigated - particularly when building not in use.	Business Manager

3	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers are used to monitor temperature levels, for heating purposes we maintain the following temperature levels: Staff are encouraged to share data with caretaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18° C-20° C for parts of the building where there is a normal level of activity, such as classrooms and offices • 15° C for corridors, halls, washrooms and circulation areas 	Caretaker/ all staff
	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
4	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	Caretaker
5	Decarbonisation	All corridor, cloakroom and toilet lights are timed to reduce usage. LED lighting installed across the site	Business Manager
Outdoor Space			
1	Biodiversity	Green spaces utilised well across the school including regular outdoor learning sessions for every pupil. Annual outdoor learning refresher training for all teachers.	Headteacher
2	Biodiversity	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school perimeter to capture more carbon with natural solutions.	Science lead
3	Biodiversity	bug hotels, bee hotels, hedgehog runways, toad buckets and bird boxes, fox den, all installed to support local wildlife.	Teaching Staff
4	Climate education and green careers	Students are involved in looking after our green spaces	Gardening club / teaching staff
5	Climate education and green careers	Gardening club is offered, all classes do active outdoor learning throughout the year, local school trips help pupils appreciate local bio diversity	Science lead / all teaching staff
6	Biodiversity	Wild patches left and wild flower areas around the site. We have a science garden	Teaching staff
7	Biodiversity	Where possible we do not use any chemicals within our outside space to help wildlife.	Caretaker
Water			
1	Climate education and green careers	Curriculum plans include learning about local water scarcity and hazard risks to encourage a culture of saving, rather than wasting water and to encourage creative ideas for how water can be saved at school.	Teaching staff
2	Climate Education and Green Careers	We aim to get all groups on board with adopting water saving habits	Eco Lead
3	Adaption and Resilience	Water butts used around the site to collect grey water which is then used to water green area / plants.	Caretaker

Procurement

1	Decarbonisation	Resources are bought with a 'just in time' mindset ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste.	Business Manager
2	Decarbonisation	Consideration is given to travel emissions in the supply chain and where possible local suppliers are used	Business Manager

Action Plan for change

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
Curriculum					Updates May 2025
1. Find creative ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum, especially in subjects where it may usually be absent such as PE, art or history.	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of curriculum links across subjects i.e. An art project showing the impact of climate change	To be fully embedded by September 2025	Teachers	Incorporate into INSET agenda in Sep.
2. Green school trip incorporated into the school calendar 2025-2026	Climate education and green careers	School trip is incorporated into year 3 curriculum plan	2025-2026	Science lead	
3. Promoting green careers to pupils	Climate education and green careers	Green careers incorporated into science week 2026	Science week 2026	Science lead	
4. Promoting curiosity in green careers	Climate education and green careers	To incorporate six (green) objects into our curiosity cupboard	Sept 2025	Assistant head	Notified LL.
Waste					
1. Encourage students and staff to recycle electronics.	Decarbonisation	Research local recycle options for electronics and publicise to parent and pupils.	Feb 2026	Eco Lead	
2. Eco warriors to create climate change star rating for each room and monitor rooms	Climate education and green careers	Each room has a star rating against key climate change areas including energy use / switch off	April 2026	Eco Lead	
3. Identify what is being thrown away in your schools. Do a waste audit of classrooms, staff room, dining hall and the school office.	Decarbonisation	Audit created feeding into a waste reduction plan	Sept 2025	Caretaker	

4. Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, batteries etc.)	Decarbonisation	All class bins and school bins to be relabeled, additional bin for soft plastics in the staff room. Add battery recycling bin in the staff room. Upcycling bin to be added to the staff room.	Sept 2025	Business Manager / Caretaker / All teachers	Batteries in place May 2025.
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Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
Food					
1. Encourage students and staff to bring plastic free packed lunches.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Eco assembly to share practical ways to reduce plastic in pupils' lunches. Pupils create a poster for parents to go into the weekly newsletter.	May 2026	Eco Lead	
2. Extend compost food waste to staff room and school trips.	Biodiversity	Food waste bin added to staff room, breakfast club and wraparound. Food waste bags provided on school trips.	Sept 2025	Caretaker Wraparound staff / teaching staff	Part of risk assessment template as of May 2025. How will we dispose of rubbish in an eco-way?
Air quality					
1. Encourage children to choose walking and cycling routes to school that are safer, and with less traffic and pollution.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Relaunch fuel free Friday with new incentives. contact local media to put the story in the paper	Oct 2025	Assistant head	Walk to school week publicized in newsletter and with an SLT assembly. May 2025.
2. Students create road signs with air pollution information to display around the school.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Poster competition in school - best posters displayed around school, noticeboard, website	Dec 2025	Eco group	
3. Monitor air quality around the school.	Adaption and Resilience	Purchase Air monitors to measure air quality during drop off and pick up times share finding with parents.	Nov2025	Caretaker	
Travel					
1. Complete the school census 'mode of travel' question to provide a baseline of mode of travel to school data.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Census completed to create a baseline to measure against. Admin to share data with eco group.	Oct 2025	Admin Assistant	
2. Eco group encourage staff and pupils to change the way they travel to school	Climate Education and Green Careers	Eco group present plan to headteacher.	Nov 2025	Eco group	
3. Reducing travel emissions on school trips	Decarbonisation	Consider transport modes for trips - add to trip checklist	September 2025	EVC	

Indoor Space					
1. Window repairs	Decarbonisation	Allocate £600 towards window repairs to become more efficient	March 2026	School Business manager	
2. Measure, record and publicise savings	Decarbonisation	Baseline measure taken of energy use. Encourage switch off practice as above. Publicise our savings.	July 2026	School business manager	
Outdoor Space					
1. Research eco friendly options to replace large fixed playground equipment.	Adaption and Resilience	Research eco options and report to headteacher	July 2026	School Business Manager	
2. Introduce additional shade structures to reduce heat risk and allow time outdoors in hot weather - particularly new EYFS, wraparound and nursery.	Adaption and Resilience	FOST to fundraise for new canopies	July 2026	Business Manager/ FOST	
3. Source eco-friendly solutions to improve EYFS outdoor space. Artificial grass.	Adaption and Resilience	Research eco options and report to headteacher	Nov 2025	School Business manager	
Water					
1. Change taps that need replacing in bathrooms to be sensor powered to avoid taps being left on.	Adaptation and Resilience	To replace as taps need replacement look at sensor options Measurable reduction in water use	September 2027	Business Manager	
2. Introduce grey water system for toilet flushing	Adaptation and Resilience	Current rainwater system evaluated for fitness Rainwater system in place	September 2027	Business Manager	
3. improve water efficiency with white goods.	Adaptation and Resilience	When dishwasher/ washing machine need replacing research for best eco-friendly options	June 2026	Caretaker	

Procurement

1. Review common purchases to identify more sustainable alternatives.	Decarbonisation	20% of common purchases moves to sustainable alternatives	January 2026	Business Manager	
2. Identify factors causing emissions from your regular or high value purchases - consider transport, disposable commodities, energy and fuel use, packaging, primary and secondary waste.	Decarbonisation	20% of regular and high value purchases moves to sustainable alternatives	September 2027	Business Manager	
3. Ask regular suppliers if they have a carbon reduction plan and Net Zero Target.	Decarbonisation	Plans received from regular suppliers and contractors	September 2026	Business Manager	
4. Once purchases have reached end of life, is there an alternative use? Consider take back schemes offered by some of your suppliers e.g. for furniture, recycling schemes like Olio and Freecycle or donating to local charities.	Decarbonisation	Reduction in waste / skip use More items recycled/repurposed	July 2027	Caretaker	