

# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

In association with EAUC, STEM Learning and the University of Reading

# Hampshire's Climate Action Planning in Education Workshop

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# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

In association with EAUC, STEM Learning and the University of Reading

Gemma Bailey- Climate Ambassadors/ University of Reading

Emma Groves- Hampshire Improvement & Advisory Service

Libby Terraz- Let's Go Zero

Ceri Jone- National Education Nature Park

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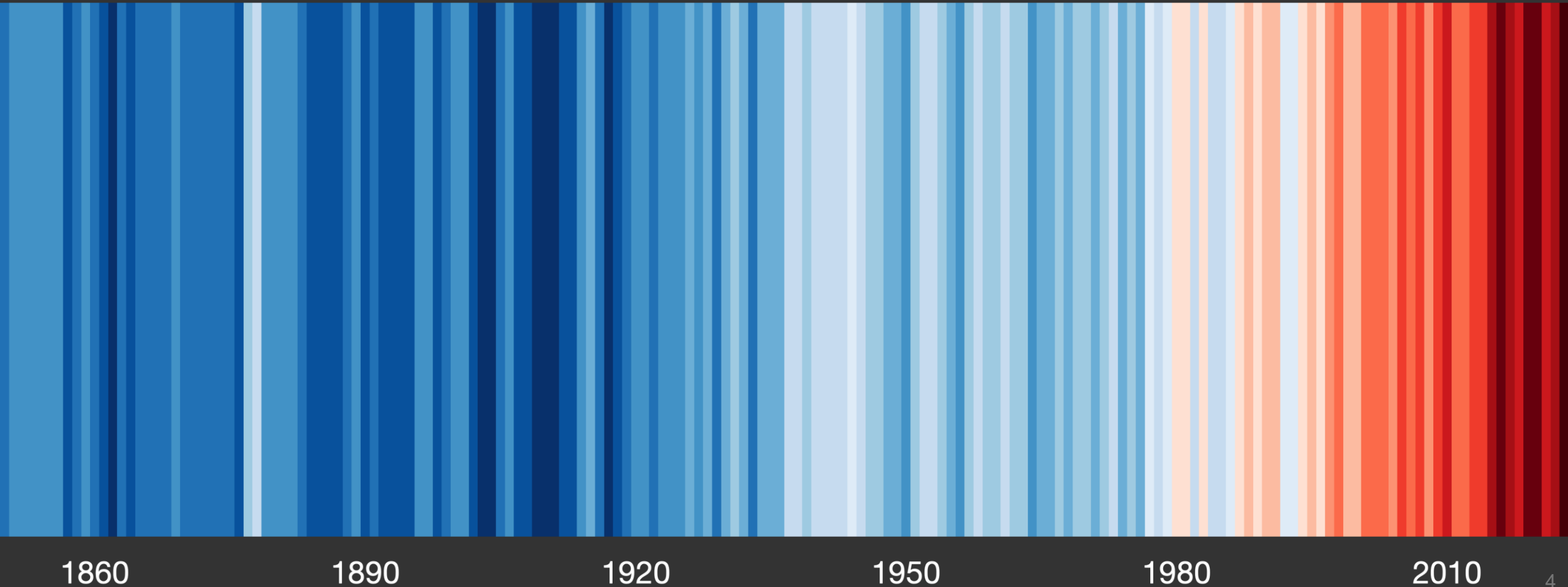
# Agenda

| Time  | Activity   |
|-------|--|
| 13:30 | Welcome and overview: Setting the Scene  |
| 14:00 | Developing your climate action plan<br>(Decarbonisation and Biodiversity)                              |
| 14:35 | Short break  |
| 14:45 | Developing your climate action plan<br>(Adaptation & Resilience and Climate Education & Green Careers) |
| 15:20 | Support programmes, Resources and Next Steps   |
| 16:00 | Event Close  |

# Global temperature change (1850-2023)

National Centre for Atmospheric Science, University of Reading

**Climate Change** is “The long-term shift in the average temperature and weather patterns across the world.” (Met Office)



1860

1890

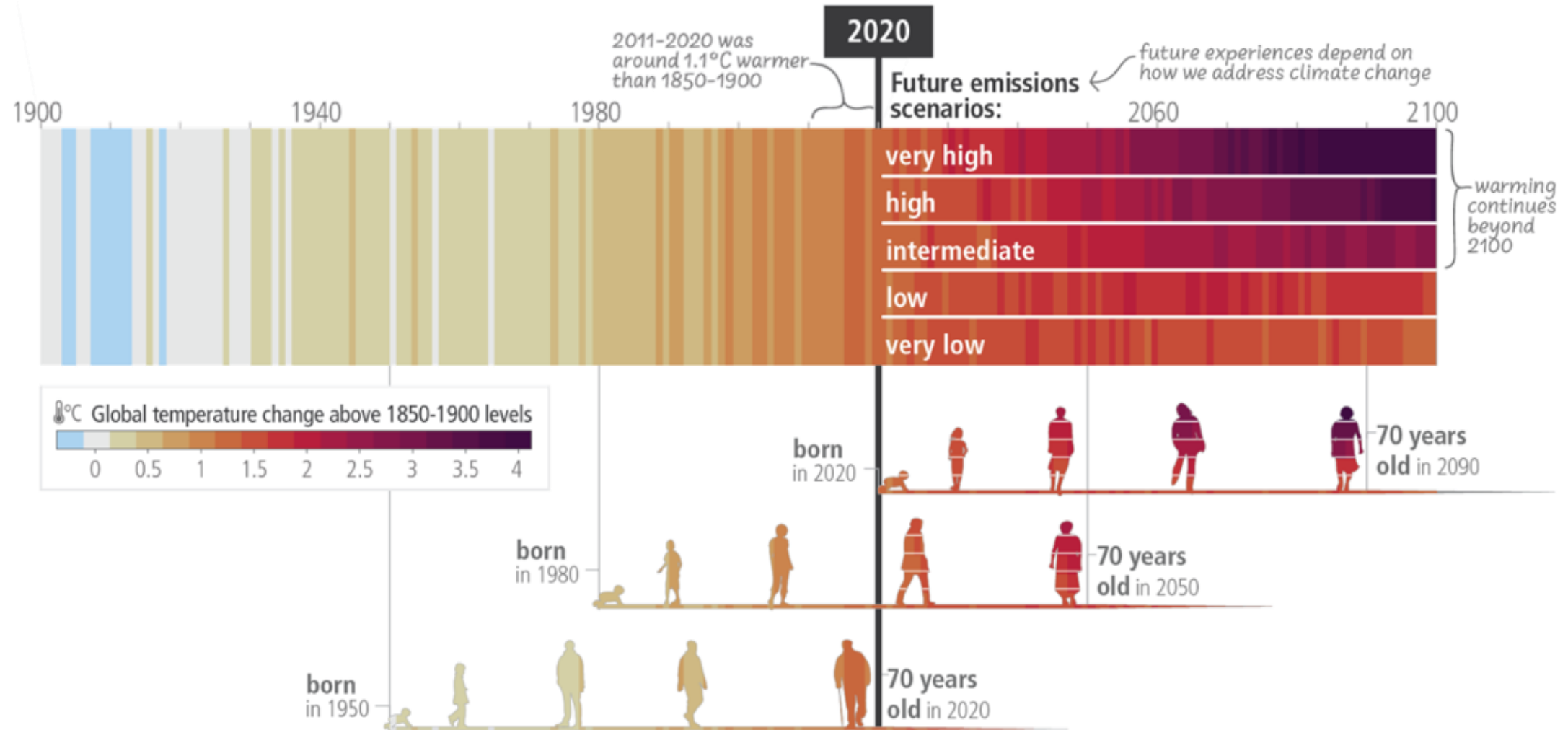
1920

1950

1980

2010

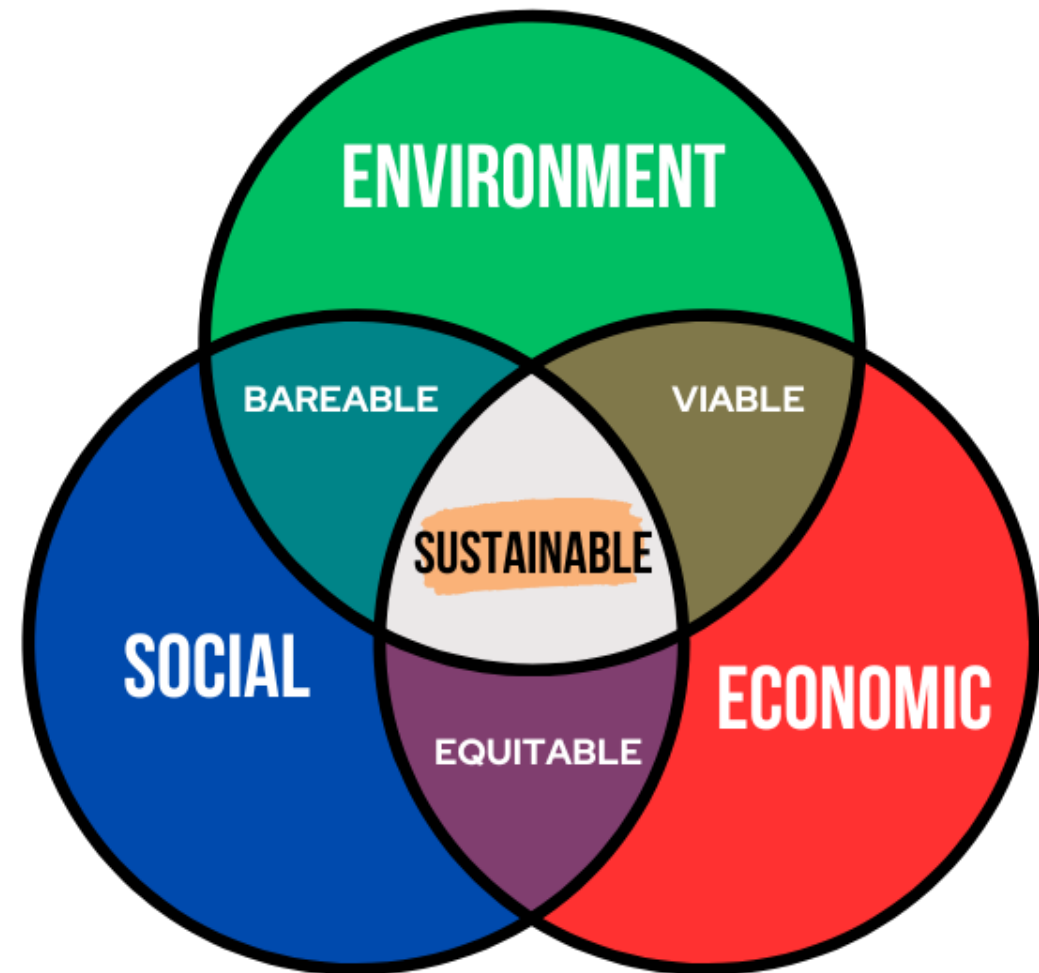
# Why does climate change matter...



# Sustainability is...

“Meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

(WCED, 1987)



# Why is climate action important in education?

- **National emission reductions-** the education system in England and Wales is both a significant contributor to climate change and is likely to be strongly affected by it. Education is the public sector's largest emitter of carbon from buildings, accounting for 37% of public sector emissions.
- **Protect and enhance biodiversity-** combined, the grounds of education settings in England take up an area over twice the size of Birmingham. These spaces can be managed in ways that provide a significant boost to nature and biodiversity and provide a space for engagement with the natural world for young people and the broader community.
- **Adapt to climate risks-** all education settings face significant operational risks from climate change impacts. 10,710 schools in England are currently exposed to a significant chance of flooding, increasing to 15,030 by 2050 if global temp increases by 2°C. A survey of teachers found that 90% had taken action to reduce classroom temperature (UK CCRA3, 2021).
- **Enabling and empowering young people-** equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to understand and address climate change, young people are better prepared to make informed decisions and take meaningful action.
- **Community leadership-** climate education and action fosters a culture of sustainability, both at the individual and community levels. There are school-aged children in 42% of all UK households, meaning changes in education settings can inspire progress across whole communities.

# DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy

All education settings should have a **sustainability lead** and a **climate action plan** by **2025**.

[Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.](#)



[Home](#) > [Environment](#) > [Climate change and energy](#) > [Climate change adaptation](#)

Policy paper

## Sustainability and climate change strategy

The Department for Education's strategy for sustainability and climate change for the education and children's services systems.

From: [Department for Education](#)

Published 21 April 2022

Last updated 20 December 2023 — [See all updates](#)



# Further mentions of sustainability/climate change in DfE publications

## Curriculum and Assessment Review

- [Curriculum and Assessment Review Final Report - GOV.UK](#) and [Curriculum and Assessment Review Final Report: government response - GOV.UK](#)

## School Estate Management Standards

- [School estate management standards](#) (Level 2 and Level 3)

## Climate Change Risks on the Delivery of Education

- [Summary of findings in relation to 3 climate risks: overheating, flooding and water scarcity - GOV.UK](#)
- [Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub](#)
- [Assess and manage flood risk in schools checklist](#)

# Sustainability Leadership

It is up to each individual education setting to decide the structure of their sustainability leadership team.

**Best practice shows that change is delivered when driven by a diverse team of passionate individuals.**



# A whole setting approach

- **Senior leadership team, governors, trustees and executive leaders-** critical for planning and implementation to be successful.
- **Learners-** important to inspire enthusiasm to help drive positive change and give learners a sense of agency, whilst increasing their practical knowledge of sustainability and climate change.
- **Teachers-** identify where climate change and sustainability teaching fits into the curriculum and embed this into learning.
- **Estates management-** operational knowledge of an education setting required for baseline data and to enact more sustainable practices.

# What is a Climate Action Plan?

A climate action plan (CAP) is a detailed plan to enable your education setting, or trust, to progress or commence sustainability initiatives.



**Decarbonisation**



**Adaptation and resilience**



**Biodiversity**



**Climate education and  
green careers**

# What is an action plan?

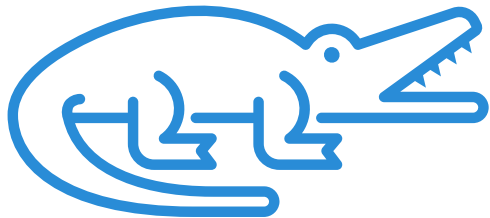
## It's not a to-do list!

An action plan lists specific steps that are needed to achieve a common goal.



### They need:

- ✓ **Goal:** Outline the clear goal and purpose. *Where to?*
- ✓ **Actions:** The activities that'll lead to achieving your goal. *What route?*
- ✓ **Items:** The 'Steps' broken up into specific, small tasks. *How?*
- ✓ **Timeline:** From start to finish, schedule every step and task. *When?*
- ✓ **Resources:** Anything you need: staff time, funding, expertise. *With what?*
- ✓ **Reporting:** To track progress and ensure the Plan becomes a reality. *How are we?*



# Climate Action Plan

Name of Education Setting:

1 year plan Spring 2025 – Spring 2026

Main point(s) of contact email:

| Help to deliver your plan   |   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Action  | Timeframe   | Stakeholders         | Notes                | Progress             |
| <p><b>Visit <a href="#">Sustainability Support for Education</a></b><br/>           Find recommended actions for your setting to become more sustainable, or to shape your Climate Action Plan. Free access to quality assured resources you can use for support.</p>   | Start:<br><input type="text"/><br><br>Review:<br><input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <p><b>Sign up to the <a href="#">Let's Go Zero</a> campaign</b><br/>           By joining this campaign, your education setting confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all education settings reach this goal by the end of the decade.</p>  | Start:<br><input type="text"/><br><br>Review:<br><input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <p><b>Place a request for support with your Climate Action Plan on the <a href="#">STEM Learning page</a></b><br/>           Regional Hub Managers will introduce your educational setting to the programme and will assist you in finding the right specialist volunteers in your area. Please get in touch via email:</p>   | Start:<br><input type="text"/><br><br>Review:<br><input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <p><b>Visit <a href="#">Sustainability Support for Education</a></b><br/>           The NENP aims to embed nature-based learning in the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals</p> | Start:<br><input type="text"/><br><br>Review:<br><input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Find out more:

[letszero.org](https://letszero.org)

[educationnaturepark.org.uk](https://educationnaturepark.org.uk)

[sustainabilitysupportforeducation.org.uk](https://sustainabilitysupportforeducation.org.uk)

[climateambassadors.org.uk](https://climateambassadors.org.uk)



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## What have we already achieved?

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# What has already been achieved?

Assess and celebrate what has already been achieved. You may have already implemented sustainability initiatives e.g. taking part in environmental action days, developing a travel plan or improving recycling within your setting.

| Action | Completed or Ongoing? | CAP Pillar | Who was involved?<br>(e.g. admin, SLT, governors, learners, site team) | Benefit/ Impact |
|--------|-----------------------|------------|--|-----------------|
|        |                       |            |  |                 |





# Climate Action Tracker

The Climate Action Tracker is designed to help each setting consider and monitor progress on CAP development and delivery, and to identify areas for improvement.

- Complete the form
- Leave any fields you can't answer blank
- Submit the form
- Email the form to yourself and use your answers to monitor progress

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## Decarbonisation

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# Decarbonisation



**Aim to reduce emissions and support students to be part of the transition to net zero.**

**Decrease emissions through changes to:**

- Energy and utilities
- Purchasing and services
- Transport
- Food
- Waste management
- Water usage

# Decarbonisation: Examples of successes



## Breakout room discussions



# Key actions for each area

## Energy & Utilities

- Insulate buildings
- Go renewable
- Turn heating down & close windows
- Be energy-efficient
- Unplug

## Transport

Walking & wheeling  
Public transport  
Lift sharing  
Single driving

- Incentivise sustainable options
- Foster community
- Upskill

## Purchasing

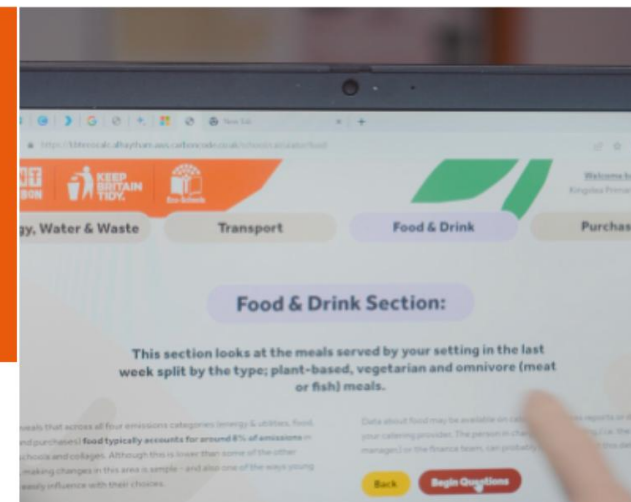
- Know what you buy
- Encourage second-hand & foster reuse
- Work with climate-minded suppliers
- Ask for third-party certifications

## Food

- Introduce plant-based
- Reduce red meat & dairy
- Consider seasonal & local produce
- Educate on the journey of food

# Count Your Carbon

Count Your Carbon is the nation's first free, full-scope carbon emissions calculator, built for – and in collaboration with – nurseries, schools and colleges. It supports educational settings to calculate, understand, reduce and track your carbon emissions.



[Home - Count Your Carbon](#)

# Decarbonisation support



- [UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero](#)
- [Home | Energy Sparks](#)
- [Public Sector Decarbonisation Guidance: schools resource hub](#)
- [Homepage - Solar for Schools UK](#)
- [ProVeg UK | School Plates](#)
- [Modeshift STARS - Travel Plan](#)
- [At school - Plastic Free July](#)
- [Barker | Building Energy and Sustainability](#)

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## Biodiversity

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# Biodiversity



**Aim to protect and enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access to, and connection with, nature.**

- Increase biodiversity in and around education settings
- Create opportunities for learners to access nature
- Develop the skills and confidence of learners to take care of their local environment
- Using the school environment as a living lab

The UK's wildlife is continuing to decline. Already classified as one of the world's most nature-depleted countries, nearly one in six of the more than ten thousand species assessed (16%) are at risk of being lost from Great Britain.

[State of Nature Report 2023](#)

# Biodiversity: Examples of successes



## Breakout room discussions



# Biodiversity



- [Home | Education Nature Park](#)
- [Outdoor Learning and Play Charity | Learning through Landscapes](#)
- [Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust](#)
- [Trees for Schools | Trees for Cities](#)
- [Branching Out Fund - The Tree Council](#)
- [Home | The Wildlife Trusts](#)
- [Tree Council's Young Tree Champions](#)

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## Coffee Break

Please be back for 14:45

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## Adaptation and Resilience

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# Adaptation and Resilience

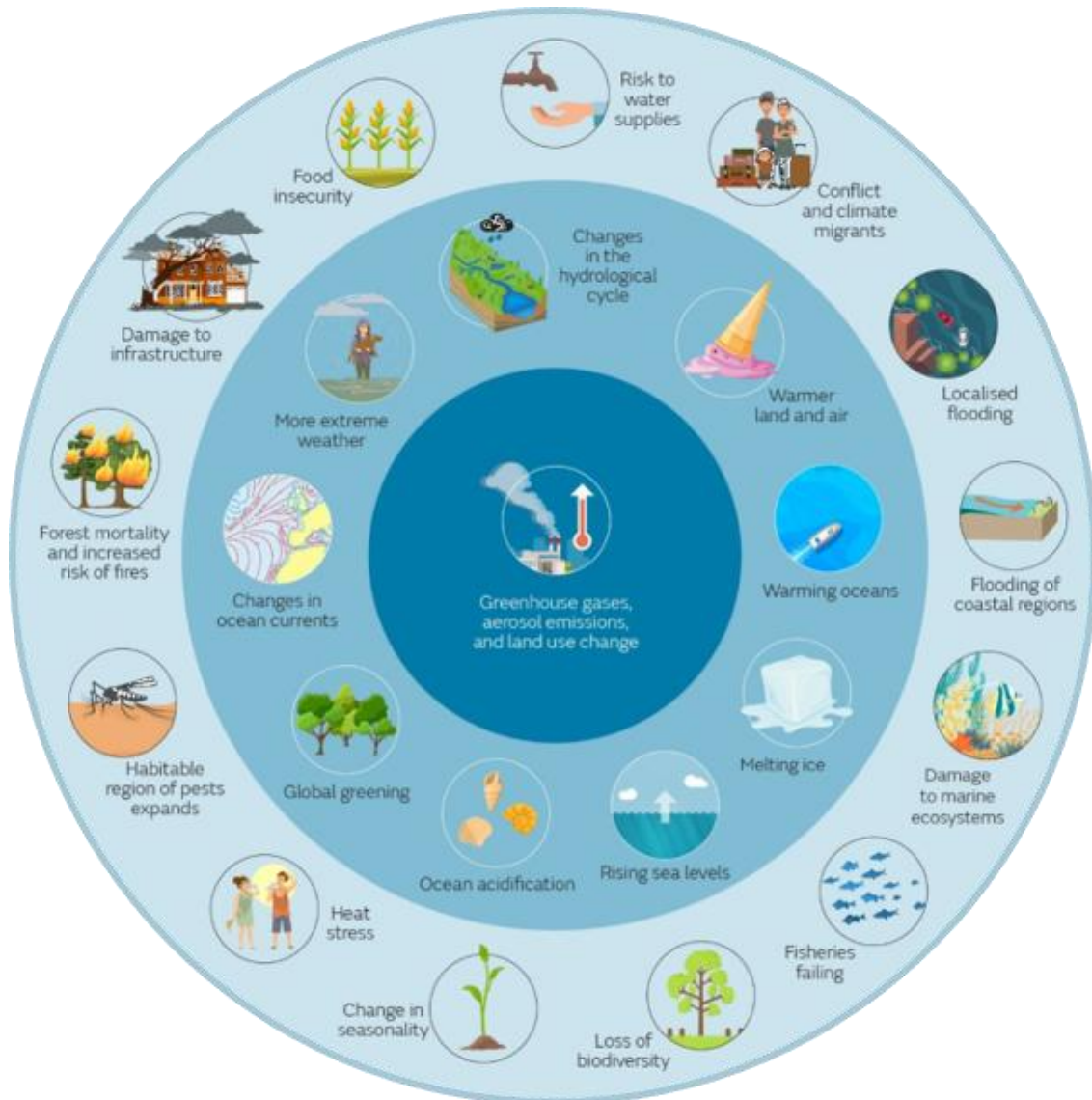


**Aim to adapt our buildings and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change.**

### **3 Elements – external, internal, individual:**

- Reduce the effects of overheating and/or flooding through physical or operational changes to site
- Developing resilience in education provision to extreme weather events
- Developing learner and staff resilience to a changing environment while considering the effects of eco-anxiety

# Climate change impacts



## Most relevant impacts for schools



Heat stress



Water scarcity



Air quality



Flooding



Food safety & security



Extreme weather



# Climate risk

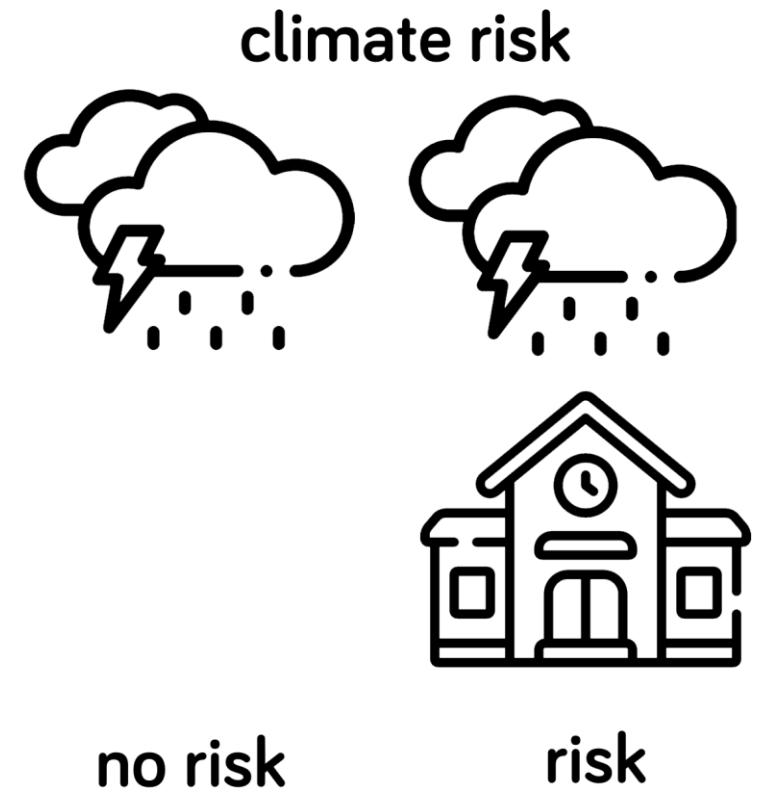
When we talk about climate change and how it might affect us, we need to think about **risk**.

**But what do we mean by risk?**

A climate hazard like heavy rainfall will only present a risk if it occurs where there is some sort of 'exposure'.

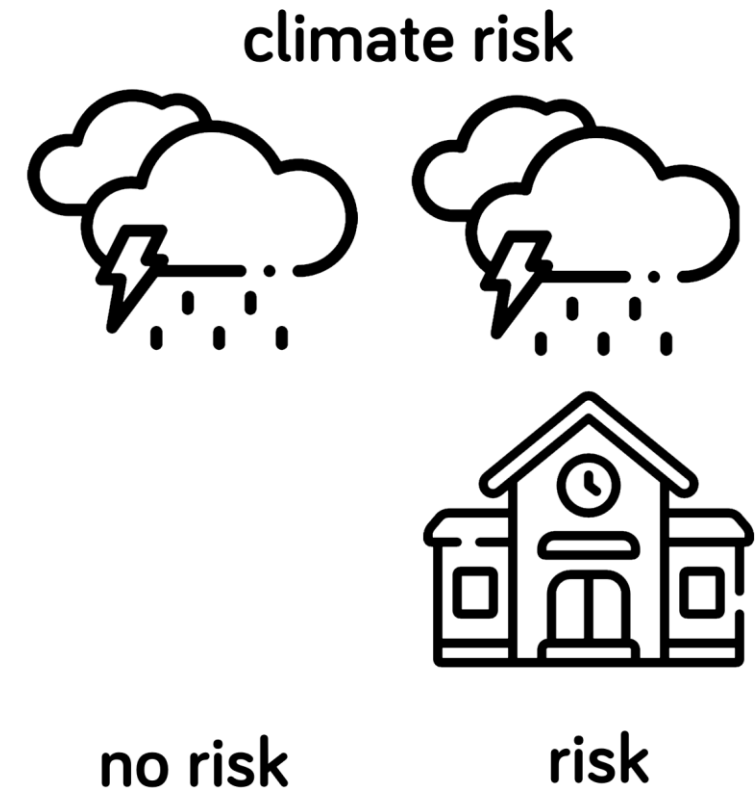
In this situation we have two locations, both with the same hazard (heavy rain/storm) but only on the right is there some exposure i.e. a school building and people.

Thus, they have different levels of risk.



# Climate risk

Climate change means that the level of risk is changing. So, even if there is no, or low risk currently, this could increase in the future.



**Have you experienced the effects of extreme weather in the past?**

**If so, what aspects of school life have been or could be affected by these hazards? What damages were incurred?**

# Adaptation and Resilience: Examples of successes



## Breakout room discussions

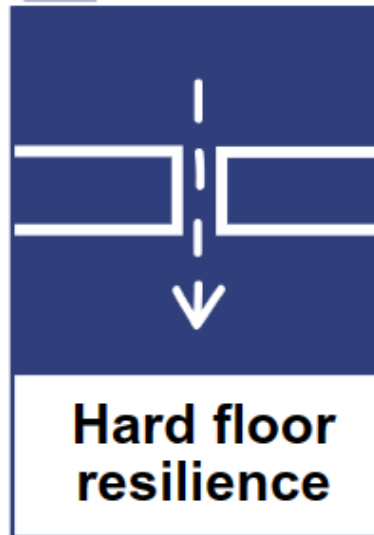


# Areas of action: 5 steps to be a climate resilient school

1



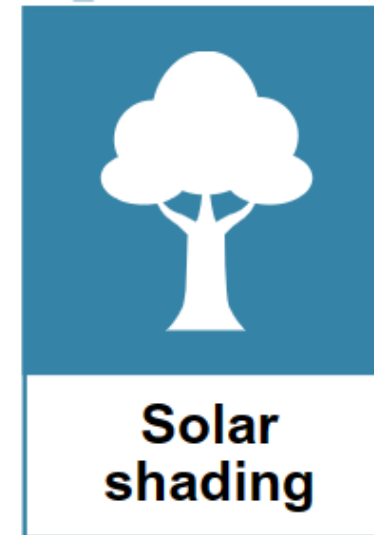
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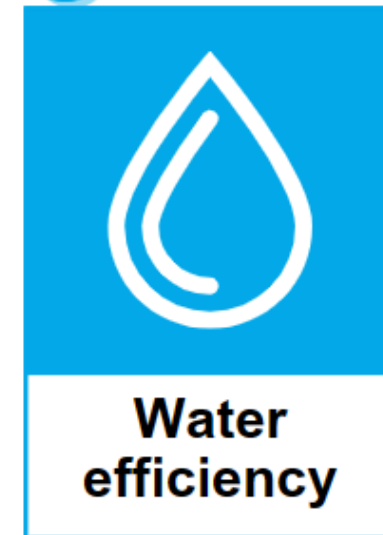
3



4



5



By the Greater London Authority



Groundcover shrubbery



Green roofs/ walls



Outdoor shading system



Permeable paving



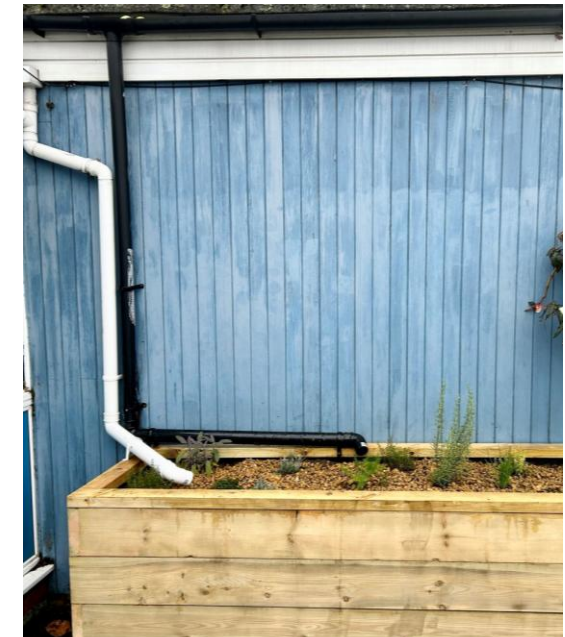
Cool/reflective roofs



Interior blinds



Roof overhang/ extended eaves



SuDS rain planters

# Adaptation and Resilience



- [Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub](#)
- [Met Office- Explore the Climate of your Local Authority](#)
- [UK Climate Risk- CCRA3-Young-Persons-Factsheet.pdf](#)
- [ClimateJust](#)
- [Check the long-term flood risk for an area in England - GOV.UK](#)
- [Climate Risk Indicators](#)
- [Greater London Authority- Climate Adaptation Plans for Schools](#)

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## Climate Education and Green Careers

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# Climate Education and Green Careers



**Prepare students for a world impacted by climate change through education & practice.**

- Embed climate education across the curriculum
- Explore opportunities for cross-disciplinary projects
- Build green skills in learners and staff
- Empower learners to have the confidence and skills to take climate action
- Provide students with the skills and opportunities to pursue green careers

# What is climate education?

Supports students to understand:

- Local & global **environmental challenges**
- How to take individual & collective **action** to address them.
- Causes of, the impacts of and the **solutions** to climate change.
- How environmental challenges intersect with society through a **holistic view** of sustainability



People



Planet



Prosperity

# What is a green job?

“Employment in an activity that contributes to protecting or restoring the environment, including those that mitigate or adapt to climate change”

The Office for National Statistics, 2023



**“Green jobs will not be niche.  
We anticipate that sustainability and  
climate change will touch every  
career.”**

Department for Education, 2022

# Climate Education and Green Careers: Examples of successes



## Breakout room discussions



# Climate Education and Green Careers



- [Teach the Future: Campaign for climate education](#)
- [Students Organising for Sustainability UK | SOS-UK](#)
- [Home - Eco Schools](#)
- [Ministry of Eco Education | Home](#)
- [MetLink - Royal Meteorological Society Home](#)
- [ESD resources - The Education and Training Foundation](#)
- [Climate change education | UNESCO](#)
- [ClimatEdPsych | Climate Resilience and Wellbeing in Education](#)
- [CPD for school and college staff](#)

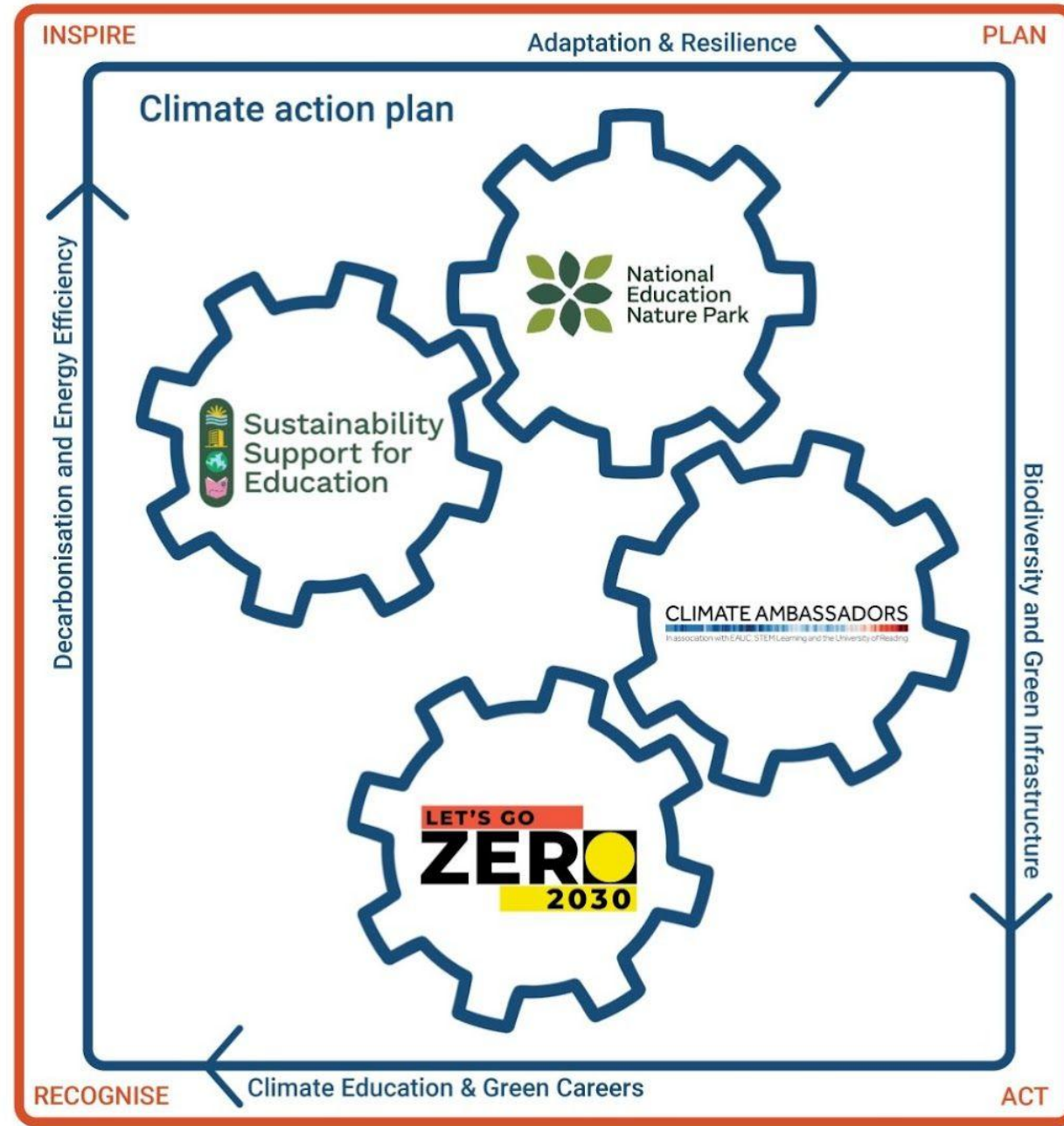
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## Support and Next Steps

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# Climate Ambassadors

To provide education settings within England access to support from volunteer Climate Ambassadors, who will help them develop and deliver impactful Climate Action Plans.



Decarbonisation



Adaptation and resilience



Climate education and green careers



Biodiversity

Funded by



Department  
for Education

# What is a Climate Ambassador?

- Volunteers from across **private, public, charity, university and community sectors** who want to put their climate change and sustainability knowledge to work.
- Aim to support education settings deliver meaningful change on sustainability and climate change.
- Climate Ambassadors will be fully DBS checked, have undertaken mandatory training and have access to a suite of additional training to complement their existing expertise and skillsets.
- Work with leaders, staff, young people and governors.



# Case Study: Orchard Learning Alliance

- MAT in Wokingham
- 10 schools (9 primary, 1 secondary)
- Sustainability lead for the trust is Headteacher at one of the primary schools
- Each school has a sustainability lead
- CEO of the trust wants all schools within the trust to take climate and sustainability action

The climate emergency is featured in the strategic priorities for 2024 – 2027:

*“We acknowledge our responsibility to ensure that all members of our school communities develop an understanding of the climate emergency and our individual and communal responsibility to do everything in our power to address it.”*



# Case Study: Orchard Learning Alliance

## Work with Climate Ambassadors:

- Planned Orchard Learning Alliance Climate Conference in October 2024
- Put Sustainability Lead (SL) in touch with climate experts willing to share knowledge to create staff training on climate change, especially for primary staff
- Supported SL to find experts who are willing to come and work with primary schools in delivering lessons on climate science
- Linked SL with someone in Let's Go Zero to help support action planning around decarbonisation



# Requesting a Climate Ambassador

Please contact Gemma Bailey via email - [climateambassadors\\_se@reading.ac.uk](mailto:climateambassadors_se@reading.ac.uk)



# Sustainability Support for Education

A key source of information on developing and delivering your CAP is [Sustainability Support for Education](#):

- A free, online service which aims to inspire and equip all education settings in England with their next steps on sustainability
- It includes the ability to input information about your setting to get more tailored support
- It helps you to set your priorities, to include in your CAP
- It directs you to quality assured resources to help you implement those priorities

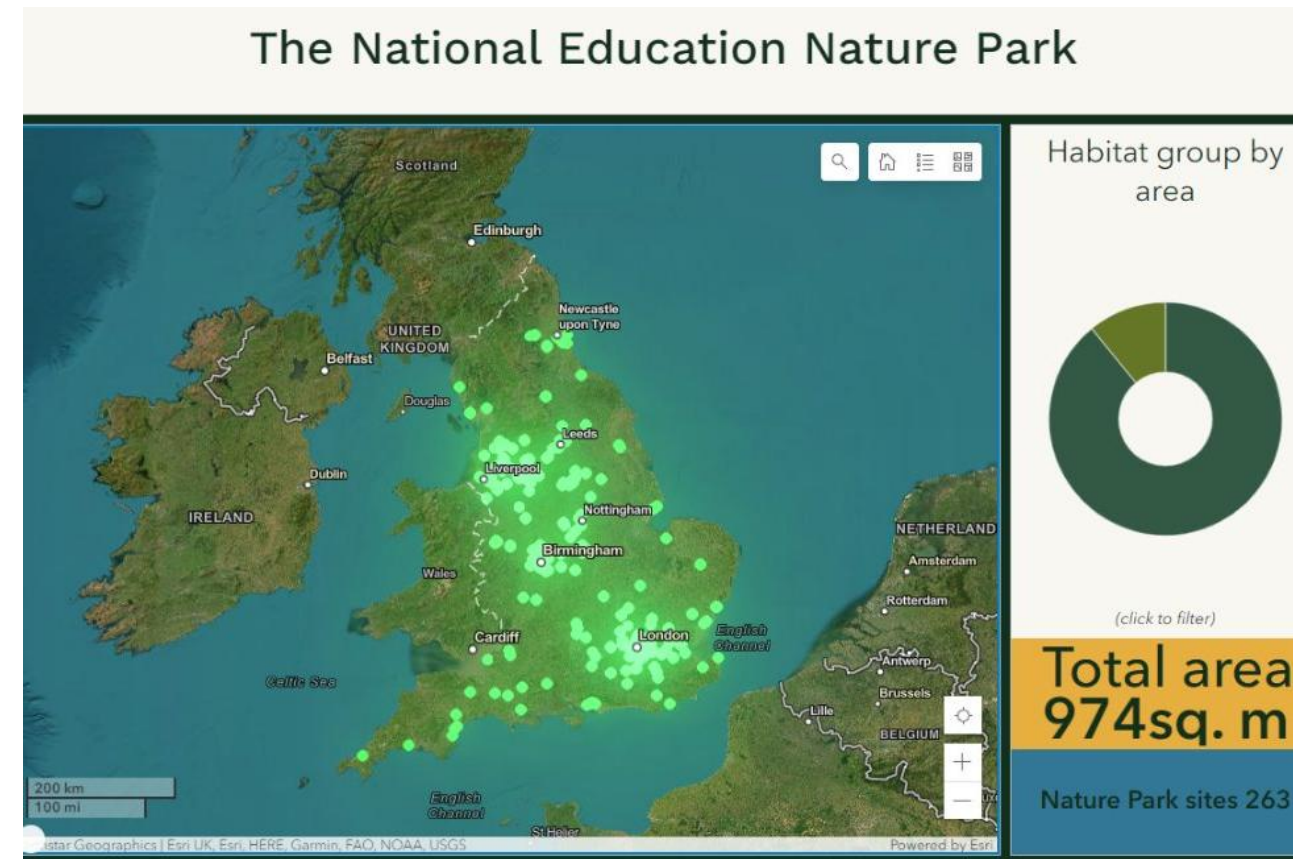


## Sustainability Support for Education

# National Education Nature Park

A free programme helping to put nature at the heart of education.

The programme brings nurseries, schools and colleges together to create one vast nature park.



# Five-step process





# Resource library

[educationnaturepark.org.uk/resources](https://educationnaturepark.org.uk/resources)

- Library of curriculum-linked resources covering climate and nature
- Quality-assured: national curriculum aligned, accurate and impartial, climate teaching best practice, accessible and up to date
- A flower icon indicates they directly contribute to a Nature Park step
- Support development of six green skills
- Filter by subject, key stage, duration and Nature Park step



Identification and Ecology



Recording Data



Interpreting Data



Creative Thinking and Decision Making



Environmental Stewardship and Horticulture



Communication

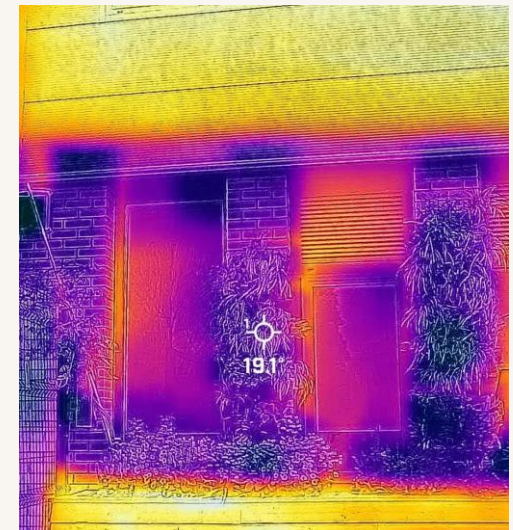
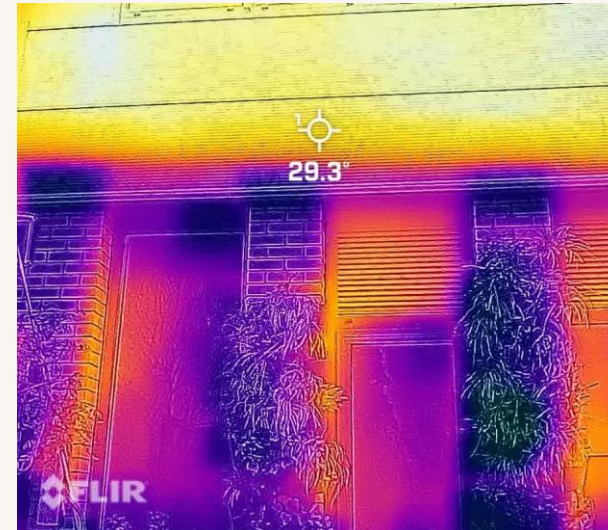
# Montrose Primary, Leicester

- Using the Nature Park to achieve their green vision
- Habitat mapping and Hidden Nature Challenge revealed the 'greyest' part of their site on the playground
- Quieter and relaxing places
- Added recycled planters full of pollinator-friendly plants, bee boxes and fruit trees in 'dead spaces'
- Embedding the Nature Park activities in the curriculum



# Co-op Academy, Manchester

- South-facing wall outside the technology classroom
- 'Grey' area that gets very hot in summer
- Gardening Club
- Linked to Business Studies and Physics
- Student and staff wellbeing
- Future plans to encourage endangered willow tits



## What now?

- Register your school
- Complete site boundary to get on the map
- Check out and share the [resource library](#) and [webinars](#)
- [hello@educationnaturepark.org.uk](mailto:hello@educationnaturepark.org.uk)



# Let's Go Zero

The national campaign for all schools, colleges and nurseries to be zero carbon by 2030.

Almost 7,600 education settings are part of the campaign, representing over 2 million students.

Join us now...

[www.letsgozero.org/join](http://www.letsgozero.org/join)



# Working collaboratively

Let's Go Zero is a national campaign supporting schools to be zero carbon by 2030.

## Let's Go Zero coalition



## Our partners





# Seven reasons to get help from our climate action advisors

[Libby.Terraz@letsgozero.org](mailto:Libby.Terraz@letsgozero.org)

- Support with calculating your carbon footprint
- Climate action planning advice for schools, nurseries, colleges and MATs
- Lower consumption, carbon emissions and costs.
- Access local and national funding.
- Discover free, inspiring curriculum resources.
- Participate in Carbon Literacy Training
- Sustainability support all year round



Hampshire  
County Council

Improvement and  
Advisory Service

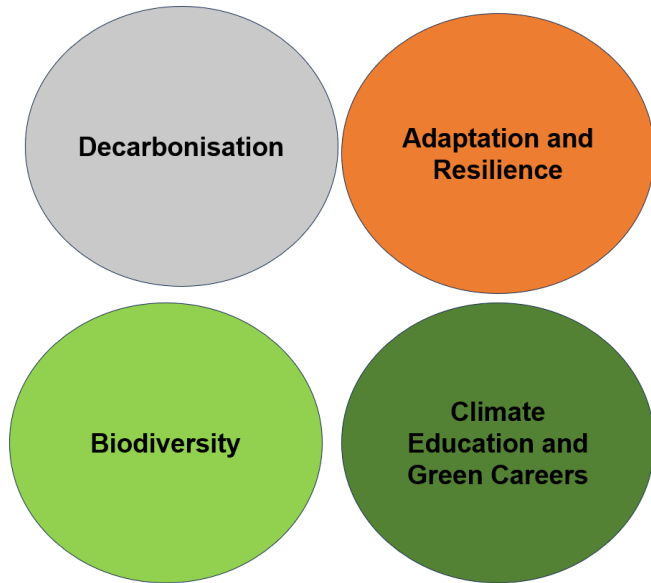
# HIAS – sustainability....where next?

June 2025

Emma Groves



# Hampshire links and contacts



## Energy and Utilities

- [energy@hants.gov.uk](mailto:energy@hants.gov.uk) - Hampshire Energy Team contact
- [BMSI Medic Energy](#) – Medic Portal for SMART meter electricity and gas data – HCC Energy Management Platform
- [Energy efficiency: guidance for the school and further education college estate - GOV.UK](#) – Government guidance for energy efficiency in schools
- [Find an energy certificate - GOV.UK](#) – database to access your schools Display Energy Certificate

## Travel

- [travelplans@hants.gov.uk](mailto:travelplans@hants.gov.uk) - Hampshire travel team contact
- <https://myjourneyhampshire.com/education/> - My Journey website.
- [Air Quality for Schools | My Journey Hampshire](#)
- [Travel Initiative: Quick Guides | My Journey Hampshire](#)
- [Modeshift STARS for Hampshire Schools | My Journey Hampshire](#)
- <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/participation-lifelong-learning/bikeability> - Bikeability scheme link.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/business/property/services/sectors-projects/education> - Hampshire Property Services website

# HCC SUPPORT AVAILABLE

There is a range of support available to educational settings from HCC, both in regards to Travel Planning and for implementing Climate Action Plans. These pages explore the teams involved, the Travel Planning Team and Hampshire Improvement and Advisory Service (HIAS)

## Travel Planning Team - schooltravelplans@hants.gov.uk

- Work with schools to **promote active and sustainable travel** and also aim to **reduce non-essential car journeys**.
- Key objectives focus on **increasing physical activity levels, improved mental health, reducing obesity levels, improving air quality and making roads safer for all**.
- Offer **guidance and support to schools** planning and delivering effective **behaviour change initiatives and campaigns**.
- Support schools to **develop Travel Plans** to promote active and sustainable travel, primarily using Modeshift STARS which supports auditing, planning and monitoring and can lead to an accreditation.
- Support can also include **parent and staff surveys, postcode mapping and assistance with Park and Stride set up and promotion**.
- **Events, initiatives and resources** shared with schools to promote active and sustainable travel.



# The Climate Unity Moodle

## Climate Unity



***"Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing."***

Arundhati Roy (Indian Author and Man Booker Prize winner)

In this area you can find resources to support your teaching about the Climate Crisis. Materials will be added to over time here and are especially suitable for KS2 and KS3, but many will also be adaptable for younger children as well as for older young people.

## [Course: Climate Unity](#)

### Climate Action Planning: Supporting Decarbonisation

Emma Groves  
Final version

© Hampshire County Council

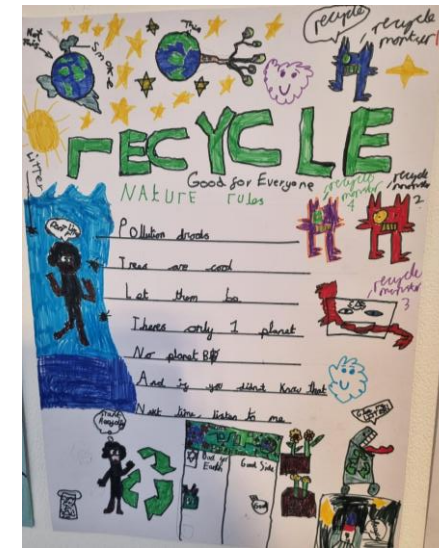
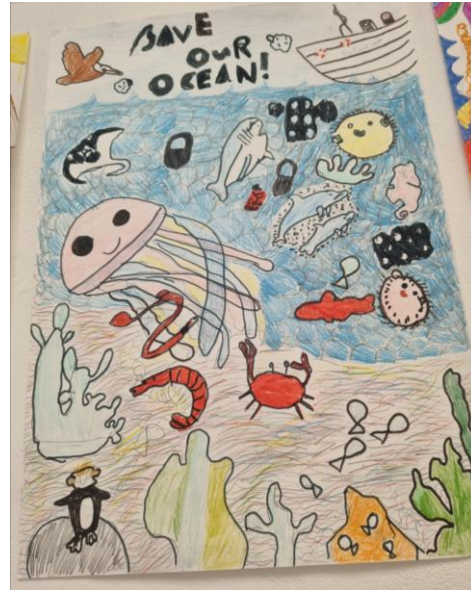
[hants.gov.uk](http://hants.gov.uk)

### Geography Sustainability

Kate Broadribb  
January 2025  
Final version

© Hampshire County Council

# Small Worlds Climate Unity Art Project





# CLIMATE UNITY PROJECT

One world  
for us all



Hampshire  
County Council

Improvement and  
Advisory Service

[click to register](#)

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 8:55-12:30pm**

- **A free virtual event for Year 5 to Year 8** exploring sustainable initiatives locally and globally.
- A morning of **engaging and practical online workshops** from experienced providers.
- Schools are invited to log in to the conference directly from their classrooms and **connect with sustainability themes in meaningful ways.**
- **Showcasing of inspiring projects** from Hampshire schools.
- **A dedicated teacher space** offering teaching practitioners the chance to hear from a range of organisations and explore resources that support sustainability in schools.

# Sustainability in the Curriculum

[emma.groves@hants.gov.uk](mailto:emma.groves@hants.gov.uk) – sustainability advisor for HIAS

Climate education and sustainability feature final report of the [Curriculum and Assessment Review](#). These topics feature particularly in the recommendations for science, geography, PHSE/Citizenship and design and technology.

Look out for:

- subject advisor updates
- subject Moodle resources
- subject networks
- primary, secondary and subject newsletters.

# Next Steps

- Assess what has already been achieved
- Share your learnings with others in your school
- Build a sustainability team
- Explore the support programmes
- Understand your context/ find your baseline for each of the four key action areas
- Begin/review your climate action plan



# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

In association with EAUC, STEM Learning and the University of Reading

# Thank you!

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