Climate Change and Sustainability Action Plan

Author: L Keane
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"At St Leonard's we have an ambitious vision to work in partnership with families the church and the wider community to prepare all our children with the knowledge, skills, values and behaviours they will need in order to flourish, reach their potential and enjoy fullness of life" John 10:10

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St Leonard's CE Primary school is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. Being 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:

- Head Teacher
- The School Business Manager (sustainability lead)
- Eco Guardian Lead
- Site Manager
- Forest School Leads
- Eco Guardians (pupil group)

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

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St Leonard's CE Primary School 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.	Head teacher & SLT
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.	Head Teacher Sustainability Lead
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, worships and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioral change by the students to help the environment.	Head Teacher
4	Climate education and green careers	The Curriculum at St Leonard's 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.	Head Teacher and SLT
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home.	Eco Guardians
Waste			
1	Decarbonisation	At St Leonard's we continually work to minimise our paper use e.g. through reminders to only print when necessary, photocopier default set to print on both sides.	Business Manager
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.	Site Manager
3	Decarbonisation	Second hand uniform shop available to parents.	Business Manager with the HSCLW
4	Decarbonisation	Paperless communication with parents.	Business Manager
5	Decarbonisation	Records Management system in place to reduce the amount of information saved on network drives and on the cloud.	Business Manager
6	Biodiversity	Composting on site for pupils snack waste. Food waste separated by kitchen and collected for composting.	Site Manager Eco Guardians
7	Biodiversity	Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils / Eco team. Community litter picks with local community litter picker group.	Site Manager/ Eco Guardians
Food			
1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste.	Business Manager with Dolce
2	Climate education and green careers	Students are educated students about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home.	
3	Climate education and green careers	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.	Business Manager with Dolce
4	Biodiversity	Pupils grown food the school allotments which is then used in cooking lessons / forest school cooking	Head teacher

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5	Climate education and green careers	Menu's are planned in advance to be appealing, Menu discussed at least annually with pupils. Healthy packed lunches are commended with stickers.	Business Manager
6	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.	Business Manager
7	Climate education and green careers	Meals are managed in a way which means pupils' food is preordered to reduce food waste.	Business 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 are two walking buses, bike racks and scooter pods.	Business Manager
2	Biodiversity	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality.	Business Manager
3	Climate education and green careers	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.	
4	Climate education and green careers	Students take part in science activities to monitor air quality levels on the school site and nearby areas	
5	Adaptation and resilience	Air quality monitors around the school show the air quality is good – this is monitored regularly	Site Manager
6	Adaptation and resilience	Window maintenance plan in place to help air circulate better, improving student health and reducing their exposure to air pollution.	Site Manager and Business Manager
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	Bikeability training offered to all pupils in KS2	UKS2 lead
	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders on the benefits of walking to school for families via newsletter/ Class Dojo	Head teacher
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use.	Business Manager/ site manager
2	Decarbonisation	Energy costs are monitored monthly and concerns investigated – particularly when building not in use.	Business Manager/ Site manager
3	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers are used to monitor temperature levels, for heating purposes we maintain the following temperature levels: • 18°C-20°C for parts of the building where there is a normal level of activity, such as classrooms and offices	Site Manager

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
		• 15°C for corridors, halls, washrooms and circulation areas	
4	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	Site Manager
Outdoor Space			
1	Biodiversity	Green spaces utilised well across the school including regular forest school and/or outdoor learning sessions for every pupil	Sustainability lead /Forest School Lead
2	Biodiversity	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school perimeter to capture more carbon with natural solutions.	Head teacher
3	Biodiversity	Birdbaths, feeders, bird houses, bug hotels, bee hotels, ponds all installed to support local wildlife.	Forest School Lead/ School Business Manager /eco School lead
4	Climate education and green careers	Students are involved in looking after our green spaces	Forest School Lead
5	Climate education and green careers	Gardening and Forest School clubs are offered throughout the year	Head teacher
6	Biodiversity	Wild patches left and wild flower areas around the site	Site Manager
7	Biodiversity	Where possible we do not use any chemicals within our outside space to help wildlife. We work closely with our grounds maintenance team to find alternatives to chemicals	Business Manager
8	Climate education and green careers	Forest School on site, sessions run by a trained practitioner providing nurture learner-led exploration and discovery, nurturing meaningful experiences for positive lifelong impacts.	Forest School Lead
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.	
2	Climate Education and Green Careers	Findings and progress about water conservation is shared with the school community, to involve staff, pupils and parents by raising awareness we aim to get all groups on board with adopting water saving habits	
3	Adaption and Resilience	Water butts used around the site to collect grey water which is then used to water allotments and plants.	

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
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					
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 2026		
2. Increase integration of climate change into all subjects.	Climate education and green careers	Clear evidence of subject integration and regular learning of climate change	To be fully embedded by September 2026		
3. Promoting green careers to pupils	Climate education and green careers	Ensuring at least one green careers take part in the annual aspirations week	July 2024	Head teacher	
Waste					
1. Clothing bank situated on site	Decarbonisation	to encourage families to recycle clothes and raise funds for school	July 2025	Business Manager	
2. Encourage students and staff to recycle electronics.	Climate education and green careers	Recycle station at school for staff and parents to use	July 2024	Business Manager	November 2024
2. Eco guardians 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	December 2025	Eco guardians	
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	September 2025	Site manager	

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4. Provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. soft plastics, batteries etc.)	Decarbonisation	Additional recycling stations at school Items in school recycled/re-used/re-purposed	September 2026	Business Manager	

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	Reward system in place Reduction in waste	September 2025	Business Manager	
2. Compost food waste from classrooms	Biodiversity	Each class collects food waste and take to 'grey fruit bin' for composting each day	July 2025	Site Manager and Eco guardians	
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	More parents using the pedestrian routes into school	September 2025	Business Manager	
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	September 2026	Business Manager	
3. Create a clean air zone around schools by implementing 'active' solutions (encouraging parents / carers to always switch off engines outside school, consider parents parking elsewhere and walking) to reduce pollution levels in and around school premises.	Adaption and Resilience	Air monitors used before and after initiative to measure impact Posters / newsletter used to share clean air zone Eco guardians to monitor parent parking	To be started January 2027	Business Manager	
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	May 2025	School Business Manager	
2. Encourage staff and pupils to change the way they travel to school	Climate Education and Green Careers	Tokens in the hall to provide visual representation of travel modes	September 2025		

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
3. Reducing travel emissions on school trips	Decarbonisation	Consider transport modes for trips – add to trip checklist	September 2024	EVC/ School Business Manager	
4. Improve pathways / routes to school to encourage more people to walk/cycle/scoot	Decarbonisation	Look at lights outside during winter months . What else could be used to encourage walking/ cycling to school. Ensure Pathways to school are cler and report to OCC via fix my street if issues.	September 2027	Business Manager / Site Manager	
Energy					
1. 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	September 2025		
2. Heating controls to be used to limit timings and temperature across school	Decarbonisation	Heating control panel fixed and working correctly Room thermostats used to monitor room temperatures throughout the day	September 2026	Site Manager	
3. Measure, record and publicise savings	Decarbonisation	Baseline measure taken of energy use. Encourage switch off practice as above Publicise our savings	September 2025	Site Manager	
4. To install LED lights across the whole school site and ensure timers/ PIR's are fitted	Decarbonisation	All corridor, cloakroom and toilet lights are set on timers to reduce usage. LED lighting installed across the site	August 2027	Business Manager	
Outdoor Space					

1. Create a rain garden in shallow landscaped depressions that can capture runoff from roofs or hard surfaces and can be planted with a wide range of plants that can survive occasional highwater volumes.	Adaption and Resilience	Rain gardens in place successfully planted	July 2028		

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
2. Introduce additional shade structures to reduce heat risk and allow time outdoors in hot weather	Adaption and Resilience	Grant funding for large trees to be planted.	July 2026	Business Manager	
3.Install new wild flower and grass planters as part of the Schools Nature Park Grant	Biodiversity	To increase the green spaces and biodiversity of site	July 2025		
4.Install wildlife cameras and animal feeders around site	Bio diversity	To increase the biodiversity of school site	July 2025		
Water					
1. Encourage staff, parents and students to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups and educate them to pour leftover water onto the garden.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Less disposables being used at events Leftover water being re-used	July 2025	Eco Guardians	
2. Change taps in bathrooms to be sensor powered to avoid taps being left on.	Adaptation and Resilience	Grant funding to replace As taps need replacement look at sensor options Measurable reduction in water use	September 2029	Business Manager	
3. Introduce grey water system for toilet flushing	Adaptation and Resilience	Current rainwater system evaluated for fitness Rainwater system in place	September 2029	Business Manager	
4. Ensure all sinks have access to plugs and staff are encouraged to not wash up under a running tap	Adaptation and Resilience	Plugs in situ and being used Measurable reduction in water use	June 2026	Caretaker	
Procurement					
1. Review common purchases to identify more sustainable alternatives.	Decarbonisation	20% of common purchases moves to sustainable alternatives	January 2025	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 2024	Business Manager	

Action	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / result of action
3. Ask regular suppliers if they have a carbon reduction plan and Net Zero Target.	Decarbonisation	Plans received from regular suppliers and contractors	September 2024	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 2024	Site Manager	