

William Alvey

Climate Change Action Plan

Introduction

At the William Alvey, we believe education should be holistic, meet the very different needs of everyone in our school community, so they all experience 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

We understand the responsibility we have when it comes to climate change so that we can **Learn Today for Living Tomorrow**. The William Alvey Climate Action Plan details the steps and strategies we are already using to ensure we are as sustainable as possible. It also includes plans to progress our sustainability initiatives further. These are prioritised to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and educate our community so that we can look forward to a brighter future.

Showing **respect** and **tolerance** are key values of our school to help instil pride in '**serving others**'. Through our curriculum and additional provision, children explore not just their role in helping the environment but in how they can shape their local community and the world they will grow up in.

Aims and Objectives

The DfE strategy on climate change states that "By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan." It also sets a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75% by 2037 across all education settings.

As part of the DfE requirements, all school climate action plans must include at least one action from these four key areas:

1. Decarbonisation
2. Adaptation and resilience
3. Biodiversity
4. Climate education and green careers

Our climate team consists of:

- Deputy Headteacher (sustainability lead)
- Site Managers
- Forest Club Leaders
- Office Manager
- Green Team / Gardening Club Leaders

The plan is split into two sections:

- Section 1: our commitment to continue with the actions we are already taking
- Section 2: action plan for change

SECTION 1: The William Alvey commit to the following actions so that our school and community can continue to flourish:

Area 1: Decarbonisation	
Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility
<p>Minimise our paper and printing usage with 'Follow me' printing and publicised budgets for each teacher. Paper recycling bins in every classroom. Year 6 recycling monitors. Providing recycling opportunities such as batteries at the front office. Second-hand uniform rail available to parents and carers.</p> <p>Paperless communication with parents (ParentMail). Walking buses in place, along with scooter and bike racks.</p> <p>Bikeability training offered in Year 5. Reduce emissions on trips by using coaches. Where possible, consider trains. Use of energy from local sustainable energy plant. Outdoor classroom encourages lessons to take place outdoors. Changing strip lighting to LED (in Reception block)</p>	<p>Computer technician Head of Year 6 & Site Managers Office Manager Office Manager & Sustainability Lead Office Manager Sustainability Lead & Site Manager Head of Year 5 Office Manager Site Managers Sustainability Lead Site Managers</p>
Area 2: Adaptation and resilience	
Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility
<p>Blinds are regularly checked and repaired/updated to keep the buildings cooler in the sun. Help to create a 'clean air' zone by reminding parents to keep car engines switched off. No parking zone near school for cleaner air – monitored by cameras. Introducing additional shade on the school site (planted trees, outdoor shelter, shelters near the Early Years block). Updating buildings with air-conditioning to avoid excessive heat</p>	<p>Site Managers Sustainability Lead SLT Sustainability Lead & Site Managers SLT</p>

<p>Explore alternative heating options (air-source heat pump for the barn)</p> <p>Monitor the climate and weather of our local area with our weather station</p> <p>In our curriculum, we run a campaign to conserve water when studying the River Slea in geography.</p>	<p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p>
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Area 3: Biodiversity

Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility
<p>The grounds have recently been planted with hundreds of trees. These are maintained.</p> <p>Wildflowers have been planted around the site.</p> <p>Green spaces are utilised across the school site during lessons and forest club sessions.</p> <p>Feeders, bird houses and bug hotels are installed to support local wildlife.</p> <p>Where possible, we do not use chemicals within our outside space to support local wildlife.</p>	<p>Site Manager & Sustainability L</p>

Area 4: Climate education and green careers

Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility
<p>We continue to seek good practice to share learning and have a whole-school approach to climate change.</p> <p>Through lessons, collective worship and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the pupils to help the environment.</p> <p>We encourage our children to be courageous advocates by using relatable role models.</p> <p>The curriculum is designed to teach children about their local area and how to look after it.</p> <p>Children in Year 6 given the role of recycling monitors.</p> <p>Children are involved in managing our green spaces.</p> <p>Forest Club is offered throughout the year.</p> <p>Curriculum plans include information on local droughts and water conservation.</p> <p>All staff and parents are encouraged to use refillable water bottles rather than single-use plastic.</p> <p>Share with children, staff and parents the successes we have at school (silver award for forest club)</p>	<p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>SIAMs Team</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability L & Head of Y6</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Sustainability Lead</p>

SECTION 2: Action Plan for Change

Area 1: decarbonisation.

Our vision is to help reduce carbon emissions that are caused by our school for a more sustainable future for all.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Steps</i>	<i>Timeline for the action or expected completion date</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)</i>	<i>Tools, resources and information</i>	<i>Funding opportunities</i>
Planning: assess buildings for draughts and leaks to reduce heating demand.	Assess building for areas of heat loss. Make small changes to help prevent heat loss e.g. draft excluders. Use energy saving trust for more tips.	1 month	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead Cost: relatively small – draft excluders etc. if needed.	None	Energy Saving Trust	Free
Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by installing	Locate external wall radiators.	1 month	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead	None	A guide to energy efficiency in the workplace	Any grants available?

reflector panels behind radiators (if needed).	Install reflector panels behind.		Cost: Low		- Energy Saving Trust	
Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by changing the light bulbs to LED bulbs in each school building.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake audit of the current situation and develop options to replace lightbulbs. Purchase LED lights and replace existing lightbulbs. 	1 year	<p>Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Low</p>	None		
Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by teaching lessons outside.	Plan lessons outdoors. Make the most of outdoor environments and bring students outside for lessons.	Ongoing	<p>Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>	Climate Education and Green Careers	Teach Outdoors. Education through outdoor learning A Teachers Guide to Adapting Lesson Plans for	Free

					Outdoor Learning (dbdplay.com) Institute for Outdoor Learning – Home (outdoor-learning.org)	
Change behaviours in our communities by running a ‘Switch-off’ campaign.	Encourage students and staff to turn off lights and monitors. Provide information to parents/carers in the WASP.	11 th November 2025- November 24 th 2025	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers	Switch Off Fortnight 2025 - Teacher Guidance - Twinkl	Free

Area 2: adaptation and resilience.

Our vision is to understand the impacts of climate change on our school and what we might do to improve the school’s resilience to weather like flooding and overheating.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Steps</i>	<i>Timeline for the action or expected completion date</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)</i>	<i>Tools, resources and information</i>	<i>Funding opportunities</i>
<p>Planning: Assess your school's risk and vulnerability to climate change.</p>	<p>Use tools to assess your climate risk.</p> <p>Vulnerability analysis to identify the most at-risk areas of the school, such as aging infrastructure or vulnerable student populations.</p>	<p>3 months</p>	<p>Staff: Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Dependant on actions chosen</p>	<p>Baseline</p>	<p>Local Climate Adaptation Tool (lcat.uk)</p> <p>This provides information on health and community impacts of weather hazards in your local area</p>	
<p>Planning: monitor heat in classrooms.</p>	<p>Install classroom heat sensors.</p> <p>Train staff to be able to use them</p>	<p>1 year</p>	<p>Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Appoint pupil energy monitors in all classes Energy Sparks</p>	

	<p>and identify when dangerous heat levels are reached.</p> <p>React to levels with appropriate policy and procedure.</p>		Cost: Low			
<p>Planning: Create policy to relax dress code in periods of hot weather and other measures needed.</p>	<p>Update policy.</p> <p>Encourage pupils to wear loose, light-coloured clothing.</p> <p>Sunhats.</p> <p>Sunscreen.</p> <p>Teachers should also encourage children to take off their jumpers.</p> <p>Use of air-conditioned rooms in hot weather – come up with a plan on who could go where.</p>	1 month	<p>Staff: Headteacher & Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>	Climate Education and Green Careers	<p>Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub (blog.gov.uk)</p>	Free

<p>Increase our school's knowledge of resilience and adaptation by raising awareness and educating.</p>	<p>Integrate climate education into the curriculum.</p> <p>Involve students and staff in resilience-building activities.</p>	<p>1 month</p>	<p>Staff: Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Free</p>	<p>Climate Education and Green Careers</p>	<p>Climate Ready Places: Lesson Plans - Adaptation Scotland</p> <p>These resources allow students to think about their place and different environments and how a changing climate might impact this.</p>	<p>Free</p>
<p>Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing ventilation and cooling.</p>	<p>Explore options based on flood risks on your school grounds</p> <p>Choose an option for type of ventilation and cooling</p> <p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural ventilation • Cool roofs 	<p>1-4 months (depending on chosen option)</p>	<p>Staff: Headteacher, Site Managers & Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Varied depending on chosen scheme</p>	<p>Air quality</p>	<p>Ventilation-in-Schools-Interactive-Guide-Jaga.pdf</p> <p>Arup Compendium</p> <p>Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shading through tree planting • insulation • air-conditioning 				adaptation measures	
Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing sail shading or using blinds.	<p>Locate suitable positioning for solar shading.</p> <p>Maintain and use current blinds</p> <p>Purchase sail shading.</p> <p>Install grounds shade: sail</p> <p>Train staff how to use and maintain.</p> <p>An option for shade on the playground.</p>	1 month	<p>Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: ££</p>	None	<p>8 Ways a Shade Sail Can Benefit Your School - Able Canopies</p> <p>Arup Compendium</p> <p>Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures</p>	https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/

Area 3: biodiversity

Our vision is to enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access to, and connection with nature.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Steps</i>	<i>Timeline for the action or expected completion date</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)</i>	<i>Tools, resources and information</i>	<i>Funding opportunities</i>
Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by joining an online biodiversity network.	Sign up to Education Nature Park for more resources.	1 day	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	None	Education Nature Park.	Free
Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by starting a gardening club.	Locate an area to garden. Advertise amongst pupils. Grow plants and get students	1 month	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free / low	Climate Education and Green Career	Simple gardening club ideas / RHS Campaign for School Gardening	Cleaner Greener Safer - Southwark Council

	involved in maintenance/ harvest.					
Increase biodiversity on school property by growing food at your school.	<p>Locate an area to grow food.</p> <p>Advertise amongst pupils.</p> <p>Grow food and get students/staff/ parents involved in maintenance/ harvest.</p>	1 – 12 months	<p>Staff: Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Low / dependant on size of garden</p>	Climate Education and Green Careers	Food Growing and Gardening edible rotherhithe	

Area 4: climate education and green careers

Our vision is to help prepare our children for a world impacted by climate change through education.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Steps</i>	<i>Timeline for the action or expected completion date</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)</i>	<i>Tools, resources and information (optional)</i>	<i>Funding opportunities (optional)</i>
Increase our school's knowledge of climate change initiatives by joining a climate network.	Start engaging with network, attend meetings, read newsletters etc.	1 day, then ongoing	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	None	Home - Eco Schools (eco-schools.org.uk) UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero (letsgozero.org)	Free
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by incorporating it in more lessons.	Carry out an audit about what we are already doing. Share resources from: www.educationnaturepark.org.uk (areas	3 months	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	None	Teaching for Sustainable Futures Teach the Future website	Free

	<p>include:</p> <p>Embed climate change in other lessons.</p> <p>Review impact.</p>					
<p>Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by holding a climate anxiety workshop/collective worships.</p>	<p>Develop a session on climate anxiety (or commission an external expert) to help pupils manage climate anxiety and stress.</p> <p>Deliver collective worships/lessons on climate education.</p>	<p>1 week</p>	<p>Staff: Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Cost: Free- low (depending on whether sessions held internally or with external provider)</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Climate Educational Empowerment Programme — Climate Psychologists</p>	