

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
- Office Assistant
- Eco Club Leader

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
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. Paperless communication with parents (ParentMail). Walking buses in place, along with scooter and bike racks. Continue national Walking to School initiative 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 Ark) Working in the local community to make a difference and raise awareness. For example, our children have carried out litter-picking in the town.	Computer technician Head of Year 6 & Site Managers Office Manager Office Manager & Sustainability Lead Office Manager Sustainability Lead & SM Eco Club Leader Head of Year 5 Office Manager Site Managers Sustainability Lead Site Managers Eco Club Leader and Sustainability Lead
Area 2: Adaptation and resilience	
Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility

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 Explore alternative heating options (air-source heat pump for the barn) Monitor the climate and weather of our local area with our weather station In our curriculum, we run a campaign to conserve water when studying the River Slea in geography.	Site Managers Sustainability Lead SLT Sustainability Lead & Site Managers SLT Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead
Area 3: Biodiversity	
Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility
The grounds have recently been planted with hundreds of trees. These are maintained. Wildflowers have been planted around the site. Green spaces are utilised across the school site during lessons and forest club sessions. Feeders, bird houses and bug hotels are installed to support local wildlife. Where possible, we do not use chemicals within our outside space to support local wildlife. Our eco-club ran a competition last year to re-design our school garden to make it more bio-diverse. A winning design has been chosen and we will be looking to bring this to life in 2026-27 Continue work in our local community (this year we made bug hotels in a local cemetery and designed and planted flower beds near our town's leisure centre).	Site Manager & Sustainability L Site Manager & Sustainability L Site Manager & Sustainability L Site Manager & Sustainability L Site Manager & Sustainability L Eco-Club Leader and Sustainability Lead Eco-Club Leader and Sustainability Lead
Area 4: Climate education and green careers	
Commitments we will continue...	Responsibility

We continue to seek good practice to share learning and have a whole-school approach to climate change. Through lessons, collective worship and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the pupils to help the environment. We encourage our children to be courageous advocates by using relatable role models who the children select. The curriculum is designed to teach children about their local area and how to look after it. Children in Year 6 are given the role of recycling monitors. Children are involved in managing our green spaces. Forest Club is offered throughout the year for all year groups. Curriculum plans include information on local droughts and water conservation. All staff and parents are encouraged to use refillable water bottles rather than single-use plastic. Share with children, staff and parents the successes we have at school (silver award for forest club). We have also achieved the highest Green Flag award possible for our efforts in all things eco. The Year 6 children have a final project where they 'upcycle' clothes for staff. They work with local artists to help them create their eco-masterpieces.	Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead SIAMs Team Sustainability Lead Sustainability L & Head of Y6 Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead and Forest Club Leaders. Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead Sustainability Lead and Eco-Club Leader Sustainability L & Head of Y6
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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>
Encourage more sustainable travel for staff and children.	SL joined Wow (Walking to school initiative). The Eco-Club have been giving badges to children regularly walking to school. Explore Cycle to Work scheme for staff. Explore a salary sacrifice scheme for purchasing electric cars.	Wow is an ongoing campaign. Weekly monitor impact in Collective Worship. Cycle to Work scheme to be investigated further in the next month. Electric Car scheme to be investigated further over the next month.	Staff: Sustainability Lead Eco Club Leader Headteacher Bursar Cost: Free. Explore risk of salary sacrifice schemes.	Benefits to physical fitness and improving mental health. Wellbeing for staff and children.	Living Streets Travel Tracker The UK's Most Popular Cycle to Work Scheme - Cyclescheme Salary Sacrifice Octopus Electric Vehicles	Wow is Free The UK's Most Popular Cycle to Work Scheme - Cyclescheme Salary Sacrifice Octopus Electric Vehicles

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 Audit was carried out last year, but continue this work.	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 reflector panels behind radiators (if needed).	Locate external wall radiators. Install reflector panels behind.	1 month Reflector panels have been placed in behind some radiators. Ensure full coverage.	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead Cost: Low	None	A guide to energy efficiency in the workplace - Energy Saving Trust	Any grants available?
Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings	Undertake audit of the current situation and	1 year. LED bulbs have been	Staff: Site Managers &	Cost-saving measures for our school.	Homepage - Solar for Schools UK	Homepage - Solar for Schools UK Solar panels for schools and universities Good Energy for Business

by changing the light bulbs to LED bulbs in each school building. Explore solar energy to off-set our increasing electric usage.	develop options to replace lightbulbs. Purchase LED lights and replace existing lightbulbs. Research the feasibility of panels on our roof. Explore what grants and schemes are available to install solar panels.	installed in our Reception block and in our Ark. Continue to replace the rest of the bulbs. One year for solar panels.	Sustainability Lead Cost: Low, depending on solar grants.			
Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by teaching lessons outside.	Plan lessons outdoors. Make the most of outdoor environments and bring students	Ongoing	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers	Teach Outdoors, Education through outdoor learning A Teachers Guide to Adapting Lesson	Free

	outside for lessons.				Plans for Outdoor Learning (dbdplay.com) Institute for Outdoor Learning – Home (outdoor-learning.org)	
Change behaviours in our communities by sustainability campaigns.	Build on the 'Earth Day' we did last year and encourage our whole community to live more sustainably.		Staff: Eco Club Leader Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers		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.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Planning: Assess your school's risk and vulnerability to climate change.	Use tools to assess your climate risk. Vulnerability analysis to identify the most at-risk areas of the school, such as aging infrastructure or vulnerable student populations.	3 months Continue to monitor our climate risk.	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Dependant on actions chosen		Local Climate Adaptation Tool (Icat.uk) This provides information on health and community impacts of weather hazards in your local area	
Planning: monitor heat in classrooms.	Install classroom heat sensors. Train staff to be able to use them	1 year In the summer term of 2026, the Sustainability Lead (SL) regularly	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead	None	Appoint pupil energy monitors in all classes Energy Sparks	

	and identify when dangerous heat levels are reached. React to levels with appropriate policy and procedure.	monitored the heat in Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 classroom. At times, temperatures were over 30C so the SL rotated time for classes to spend time in air-conditioned rooms. This meant children were not in heat for extended periods of time. SLT have now made the decision to install air-conditioning in all classrooms. This will be monitored by the SL.	Cost: Low			
Planning: Create policy to relax dress code in periods of hot weather and other measures needed.	Update policy. Encourage pupils to wear loose, light-coloured clothing. Sunhats. Sunscreen. Teachers should also encourage	1 month Relaxed dress code was adopted regularly in the summer term 2026. Regular communication about sunhats, sunscreen etc. were made to parents and children.	Staff: Headteacher & Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers	Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub (blog.gov.uk)	Free

	children to take off their jumpers. Use of air-conditioned rooms in hot weather – come up with a plan on who could go where.	We rotated children into air-conditioned rooms when needed.				
Increase our school's knowledge of resilience and adaptation by raising awareness and educating.	Integrate climate education into the curriculum. Involve students and staff in resilience-building activities.	1 month	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	Climate Education and Green Careers	Climate Ready Places: Lesson Plans - Adaptation Scotland These resources allow students to think about their place and different environments and how a changing climate might impact this.	Free
Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating	Explore options based on flood risks on your school grounds	1-4 months (depending on chosen option) We are installing air-conditioning.	Staff: Headteacher, Site Managers	Air quality	Ventilation-in-Schools-Interactive-Guide-Jaga.pdf	

from climate change by installing ventilation and cooling.	Choose an option for type of ventilation and cooling • We are installing air-conditioning. • Exploring shaded options for the playground.		& Sustainability Lead Cost: Varied depending on chosen scheme		Arup Compendium Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures	
Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing sail shading or using blinds.	Locate suitable positioning for solar shading. Maintain and use current blinds Purchase sail shading. Install grounds shade: sail Train staff how to use and maintain.	1 month Blinds have been replaced where needed. We are exploring shaded options for the playground.	Staff: Site Managers & Sustainability Lead & Y3 Team Leader Cost: ££	None	8 Ways a Shade Sail Can Benefit Your School - Able Canopies Arup Compendium Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures	https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/

	An option for shade on the playground.					
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Area 3: biodiversity

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

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information	Funding opportunities
Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by joining an online biodiversity network.	Sign up to Education Nature Park for more resources.	We are signed up to Nature Park and our Eco-Club leader made the application for a Green Flag Award. We will continue to explore further options.	Staff: Sustainability Lead Eco-Club Leader Cost: Free	None	Education Nature Park.	Free
Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by starting to diversify our garden.	Locate an area to garden. Advertise amongst pupils.	1 year Our Eco-Club ran a competition to re-design our garden as part of Earth Day.	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

	Grow plants and get students involved in maintenance/ harvest. Involve the local community.	Our Eco-Club leader is coming up with a plan for how to make changes to our garden and then maintain it.				
Increase biodiversity on school property by growing food at your school.	Possibly locate an area to grow food as part of the new garden. Advertise amongst pupils. Grow food and get students/staff/ parents involved in maintenance/ harvest.	12 months We currently grow fruits and want to extend this to other foods.	Staff: Sustainability Lead. Eco-Club Leader. Cost: Low / dependant on size of garden	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.

Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Co-benefits (any cross over benefits with other goals or plans)	Tools, resources and information (optional)	Funding opportunities (optional)
Increase our school's knowledge of climate change initiatives by joining a climate network.	Start engaging with network, attend meetings, read newsletters etc.	SL lead has joined the East Midlands Climate Ambassador's scheme and attends webinars with the group. This will continue. SL and Eco-Club Leader joined the Eco-Schools network. In July 2026 we received a Green Flag with Distinction	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 include: Embed climate change in other lessons. Review impact.	Audit of our curriculum has taken place across all year groups with lots of coverage across all areas. Resources have been shared. Continue to embed these and review impact.	Staff: Sustainability Lead Cost: Free	None	Teaching for Sustainable Futures Teach the Future website	Free
Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by holding a climate anxiety workshop/collective workshops. Explore	Develop a session on climate anxiety (or commission an external expert) to help pupils manage climate anxiety and	Lessons and Collective Workshops have been delivered on climate. More work to be done on climate anxiety	Staff: Sustainability Lead And Eco-Club Leader Cost: Free- low (depending on whether sessions held internally or	None	Climate Educational Empowerment Programme — Climate Psychologists	

highlighting more green careers in lessons and collective worship.	stress. Deliver collective worships/lessons on climate education.	with the Eco-Club.	with external provider)			
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