

# Withington Primary School

*Climate Action Plan 2025*



Withington Primary school is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably.

Our climate change team consists of:

- The School Business Manager (sustainability lead)
- Science Lead Teacher
- The Head of Learning
- Receptionist
- Green Team/Eco Warriors (pupil group from September 2025)

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

## Section 1: Withington Primary commits to continue the following actions -

	DfE Link	Actions	Responsibility
<b>Curriculum</b>			
1	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	We continue to seek out good practice to get inspired and share learning with other education settings on learning about climate change.	<i>Science Lead teacher</i>
2	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	Through lessons, worships and the curriculum plan we encourage behavioural change by the students to help the environment.	<i>PSHE + Science Lead teacher</i>
3	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home	<i>PSHE + Science Lead teacher</i>
<b>Waste</b>			
1	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Recycling separated and pupils and staff educated about the value of resources	<i>Cleaners + Science Lead</i>
2	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Second hand uniform shop available to parents.	<i>Head of Learning / Parents</i>
3	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Paperless communication with parents on Class Dojo	<i>Head of Learning</i>
4	<b>Biodiversity</b>	Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils.	<i>Science Lead</i>
<b>Food</b>			
1	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Students are educated students about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home.	<i>PSHE + Science Lead teacher</i>
2	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	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.	<i>Head of Learning / Parents / Dinner Ladies</i>
3	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Early Years to continue using olio food waste to resource items for CP in class.	<i>Head of Learning / Nursery Lead</i>
<b>Air Quality</b>			
1	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	Children are encouraged to come to school on foot, bike, scooter to reduce pollution near school. There is 'Walk Home Wednesday' and a new bike shelter/rack in the playground.	<i>Head of Learning</i>
2	<b>Biodiversity</b>	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality.	<i>Nursery Nurse / Staff</i>
<b>Travel</b>			
1	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	'Walk Home Wednesday' promoted to encourage walking to school, along with bike rack in the playground.	<i>Head of Learning</i>
2	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Children encouraged through 'Living Streets App' to walk to and from school at least once a week to get their monthly badge.	<i>Head of Learning</i>

3	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Bikeability training offered to all pupils in Year 6	<i>Head of Learning</i>
4	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Parents/Carers of pupils in Year 5/6 are encouraged to allow their children to be responsible for getting themselves to and from school. (Year 5s from Spring/ Summer Term)	<i>Class Teacher (Tawny Owls)</i>
<b>Reducing Energy</b>			
1	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use.	<i>Staff Members</i>
2	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Several rooms lights now on a timer to reduce usage	<i>Business Manager</i>
<b>Outdoor Space</b>			
1	<b>Biodiversity</b>	Birdfeeders, bird houses, bug hotels, ponds all installed to support local wildlife.	<i>Staff Members</i>
2	<b>Biodiversity</b>	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school to capture more carbon with natural solutions.	<i>Staff Members</i>
<b>Water</b>			
1	<b>Climate education and green carers</b>	All staff, parents and students are encouraged to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups.	<i>Head of Learning</i>
<b>Procurement</b>			
1	<b>Decarbonisation</b>	Resources are bought with a 'just in time' mindset ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste.	<i>Head of Learning</i>

## Section 2: Action Plan for Change at Withington Primary

Actions	DfE Link	Target/ Measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation of Action
<b>Curriculum</b>					
1. An Eco-Council set up and productive within school, taking assemblies and helping to push forward climate action plan.	<i>Climate education and green careers</i>	An Eco Council who know their roles is set up within school and understands staff members who they can reach out to for support.	October 2026	Science Lead	
2. Find creative ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum, especially in subjects where it may usually be absent such as PE, art or history.	<i>Climate education and green careers</i>	Evidence of curriculum links across subjects i.e. An art project showing the impact of climate change	To be fully embedded by September 2026	Science Lead Subject Leads	
3. Increase integration of climate change into all subjects.	<i>Climate education and green careers</i>	Clear evidence of subject integration and regular learning of climate change	To be fully embedded by September 2026	Science Lead Subject Leads	
<b>Waste</b>					
1. Identify what is being thrown away in your schools. Do a waste audit of classrooms, staff room, dining hall and the school office	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Audit created feeding into a waste reduction plan	April 2026	Science Lead	
2. 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.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Clear labels around school on each bin, class assemblies on recycling spots.	December 2025	Science Lead Eco Council	

3. Clothes bank at school regularly used by parents and staff.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Clothes bank used by all pupils, parents and staff to promote second hand use in the school community.	Investigate and be up and running by Summer 2026	Science Lead Head of Learning	
4. Continue to provide recycling opportunities for a range of products (i.e. batteries etc.) Items in school recycled/re-used/re-purposed	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Re-introduce battery recycling within school porch and look into other opportunities.	December 2025	Science Lead	
<b>Food</b>					
1. Pupils grown food the school gardens which is then used in cooking lessons / forest school cooking	<i>Biodiversity</i>	Create more growing space within the school grounds and create action team to take care of the vegetables.	Summer 2026	Science Lead	
2. Encourage students and staff to bring plastic free packed lunches.	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Reward system in place Reduction in waste	December 2025	Science Lead	
3. Reduce the amount of Plastic waste used with milk cartons.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Find an alternative to individual plastic cartons from Cool Milk Delivery, reducing the amount of daily waste.	Spring 2025	Science Lead	
<b>Air Quality</b>					
1. 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.	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Have more opportunities within lessons and during assembly to learn about air pollution and how to do their part.	Summer 2026	Science and PSHE Lead	
2. Air quality monitors around the school show the air quality is good – this is monitored regularly	<i>Adaptation and resilience</i>	Discuss costings with business manager and actively monitor air quality around school.	Summer 2026	Business Manager	
<b>Travel</b>					

1. Reduce travel emissions on school trips – consideration to mode of transport is considered and where possible, have joint trips within the federation to reduce emissions.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Wherever possible, teachers look into sharing travel within school and the federation to reduce travel emissions.	Summer 2026	All teachers	
2. Reduce travel emissions from families traveling too and from school.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Run an active travel plan in school – encouraging children to walk to school with their family. Increase termly monitoring of travel to and from school.	Summer 2026	All teachers	

### Reducing Energy

1. Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances and plugs when not in use.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Eco-council install notices around school and host assemblies, reminding people to switch off lights. Light monitors employed.	December 2026	Science Lead	
2. Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Eco-council door monitors installed around school for breaktimes, lunchtimes and the end of the day to ensure maintained.	December 2026	Science Lead	
3. To install solar panels across the site	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Solar panels successfully installed across site Reduction in energy usage from the grid	July 2028	Business Manager	

### Outdoor Space

1. Students are involved in looking after our green spaces	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Eco-council involved In looking after green spaces within school and share their ideas with head of learning.	Summer 2026	Science Lead	
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2. Gardening and Forest School clubs are offered throughout the year	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Staff member trained within forest schools and offers clubs throughout the year. See if staff will offer a gardening club to pupils.	Summer 2026	All teachers	
3. Forest School on site, sessions run by a trained practitioner providing nurture learner-led exploration and discovery, nurturing meaningful experiences for positive lifelong impacts.	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Staff member trained and running forest school sessions on site.	Summer 2026	Head of Learning	
4. Wild patches left and wild flower areas introduced around the site	<i>Biodiversity</i>	Eco council responsible for planting and looking after wild flower areas within school.	Summer 2026	Science Lead	
<b>Water</b>					
1. 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	<i>Climate education and green carers</i>	Eco council and science lead to run assemblies throughout the year, promoting water saving habits across school.	Summer 2026	Science Lead	
2. Water butts used around the site to collect grey water which is then used to water allotments and plants.	<i>Adaptation and resilience</i>	Water butts installed, ensuring water is saved around school site.	Spring 2026	Science Lead Business Manager	
<b>Procurement</b>					
1. Consideration is given to travel emissions in the supply chain and where possible local suppliers are used.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Eco council to ask for meeting with business manager to discuss supplies and where they come from.	Summer 2026	Business Manager	

2. Ask regular suppliers if they have a carbon reduction plan and Net Zero Target.	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Plans received from regular suppliers and contractors	Summer 2026	Business Manager	
3. Once purchases have reached end of life, is there an alternative use? Consider take back schemes or offering items to Freecycle or Parents	<i>Decarbonisation</i>	Reduction in waste / skip use More items recycled/repurposed	Summer 2026	All teacher	