SPRINGWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Climate Action Plan

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. Jacqui Wennington

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Date Written:	December 2025
Ratified by Trustees:	N/A
Next Review:	December 2028

Introduction

As we move towards a more environmentally conscious future, it is imperative that schools play a pivotal role in shaping the next generation's understanding and commitment to sustainability. Springwood Primary School is committed to educating our pupils, their families, staff and wider stakeholders about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. In order to do so, we have created a Climate Action Plan, which outlines what Springwood is already doing to be a sustainable school and identifies actions designed to enhance our current practices, as part of a three-year plan, embedding a holistic approach to sustainability within the school community from September 2025.

Using the four areas identified in the DFE's Sustainability and climate change strategy our climate action plan will focus on:

- **Decarbonisation**
- **Adaptation and Resilience**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Climate Education and Green Careers**

It will also aim to ensure pupils will continue to:

- spend time in nature and learn more about it or from it;
- become actively involved in the improvement of their local environment;
- have regular contact with outdoor spaces, which have a beneficial impact on their physical and mental health;
- find out more about the impact of energy and water use
- experience sustainability brought to life in the buildings around them, allowing them to be immersed in experiences which will enhance and contextualise their learning.

For more information, please see the DfE Sustainability and Climate Change: a strategy for the education and children's services systems: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy/sustainability-and-climate-change-a-strategy-for-the-education-and-childrens-services-systems

Aims

Our Aims are:

- To ensure everyone stays healthy and safe.
- To ensure everyone feels valued and has a sense of belonging.
- To provide a high-quality learning environment.
- To help everyone enjoy learning and achieve their best.
- To nurture and develop the whole child.
- To ensure everyone makes a positive contribution to the school and wider community.

In order to achieve our aims, we will:

- promote responsibility for the environment within the organisation and communicate and implement this at all levels with pupils, their families, staff and wider stakeholders;
- reduce the use of energy, water and other resources, where possible;
- minimise waste by thorough consideration of the three Rs: Reduce, Re-use and Recycle;
- comply with all relevant environmental legislation/regulation and ensure school policies reflect this;
- identify and provide appropriate training, advice and information for staff and encourage them to develop new ideas and initiatives;
- provide resources to meet the commitments;
- promote and encourage involvement in local environmental initiatives/schemes, where appropriate.

Current Practice

- Some corridor, storage spaces and toilet lights are set on timers to reduce usage. LED lighting installed in some parts of the premises;
- Clear recycling system in place for paper;
- Food waste recycling
- Air quality / carbon dioxide monitors around the school show the air quality is good – this is monitored regularly.

Roles and Responsibilities

Our climate change team consists of:

Role	Responsibility
Heads of School	Sustainability and Climate Change Lead
School Business Manager	Lead on recycling and energy efficiency
Site team	Maintaining our school environment and working closely with SBM with regards recycling and energy efficiency
Assistant Head Teacher (Curriculum and Achievement)	Working with all subject leaders to ensure clear links are made within their curriculum subjects with climate change and sustainability
Science and DT Subject Team	Clear links made within the Science curriculum with growing an understanding of the natural world. Implement changes and practices to support becoming an Eco-Friendly School.
Culture Team	Clear links made within the Geography curriculum to ensure the children have a growing understanding of the impact we are having on our climate.
School Council coordinator	Pupil voice, sustainability and citizenship
PSHE Lead and Subject Team	Lead on supporting all children with their emotional and mental health through a nurturing approach and caring for the school environment. Promoting the importance of learning outdoors to support mental health and wellbeing.
Outdoor Learning Coordinator	Supporting pupils to develop sustainability skills and to maintain the Outdoor Learning Area.

Action Plan

Key Area: Starting Out 2025 - 2026					
Focus	**Objective**	**Actions**	**Lead Person/s**	**Resources**	**Evaluation of Impact**
Establishing a baseline	Identify appropriate resources to implement Climate Action Plan	Meet with Let's Go Zero Climate Action Advisor (Danielle McCardle) to discuss priorities and next steps for the school site, to reduce carbon emissions.	HoS Autumn 2025, Review Termly	n/a	
	Identify a baseline of Sustainable measures in place and further actions needed	Conduct a Sustainability audit	Culture Team Science and DT Team Outdoor Learning Lead AHT (Curriculum)	Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools	
	Identify a baseline of energy use and further actions needed	Conduct a review of energy use. Send over last 12 months gas/electricity consumption to Danielle McArdle. Develop and implement a plan to reduce overall energy consumption by 15%. Promote energy-saving behaviours through awareness campaigns and classroom initiatives. Take part in a switch off campaign.	SBM	Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools	
	Identify a baseline of carbon use and further actions needed	Conduct a carbon audit	SBM	**Count Your Carbon**	

| Increasing knowledge | Increase our school's knowledge of climate change and sustainability measures | Share with staff and pupils what climate change action we are taking.

Appoint a Climate Change Lead

Form an Eco Committee | AHT (Curriculum)
School Council Led | **Free online workshops and training for schools - Lets Go Zero**

How to start a school green team

Free Eco Resources - Green Schools Project | |
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| Key Area 1: Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency: Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient ||||||
| 2026 – 2028 ||||||
Focus	Objective	Actions	Lead Person/s	Resources	Evaluation of Impact
Recycling Procedures	Continue to minimise our paper use	Use of Arbor, Weduc, social media and website to communicate with parents in a range of different ways (all staff for Weduc) • Use store details so printing sits in your log in • Photocopier to default to print to both sides Reminders to only print when necessary To have paper recycling stations around school Development of electronic systems for ordering school meals to reduce paper copies being sent home and between classes and kitchen	SBM	n/a	
Food Waste & Composting	Meals are pre-ordered to reduce food waste	Meals are managed by the kitchen team in a way that some items are self-selected in advance and some items are self-selected during service ensuring they are choosing what they want to eat, alongside reducing wastage of over cooking through pre-orders	SBM Citywide	Food waste bins	

		Development of electronic systems for ordering school meals to reduce meal waste			
Promote healthy and sustainable diets	Vegetarian options are promoted and part of the daily menu each day.	The menu includes a meat free Monday and vegetarian option Tuesday – Friday.	SBM Citywide AHTs (Operational leads)	Canteen to Classroom - ProVeg UK has ready to go lessons and assemblies (find assemblies under the 'additional resources' tab)	
Waste, consumption and recycling	Work with school IT Technician to identify electronic hardware no longer used in school and to recycle products	Safely recycle 75% of electronic hardware in school.	SBM Fingertips Solutions		
Energy efficiency	Solar panels Review common purchases to identify more sustainable alternatives.	To increase the number of solar panels on the roof of Swinton and Craig Hall school sites.	SBM Site Team	Register interest for GMCA's Powering our Schools programme https://gmgreencity.com/projects-and-campaigns/powering-our-schools/ and/or speak to Homepage - Solar for Schools UK	
Energy efficiency	Improve energy efficiency across the school to reduce the carbon footprint.	Start 'switch off' campaign to encourage all of the school community to close windows / doors, switch off lights and computers when they're not in	School Council Lead Eco Committee SBM Site Team	Activities	Energy Sparks	

	Encourage pupils and staff to switch off lights, PCs and screens before leaving rooms. Consider installation of smart meters and energy-efficient lighting to monitor and reduce energy use.	use, tighten taps to ensure they are not dripping. To replace all lights with LED lights to reduce use of energy To install sensor lighting in all non-pupil rooms to reduce use of energy			
Air quality	Explore electric car charging points for schools	To install 2x electric vehicle charging points on Swinton site and 1x vehicle charging point at Craig Hall site	SBM Site Team	Workplace Charging Scheme for state-funded education institutions - GOV.UK	
Energy efficiency	Optimise BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set	All BMS settings are established to ensure energy efficient usage. This includes winter / summer modes plus regulated temperatures reflected to actual location within school.	SBM Site Team	18ºC is the general recommendation for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43ºC (stored at 60ºC). Experiment with your heating schedule while maintaining comfort - running it one hour less per day or reducing temperatures by 1 degree can cut annual heating costs by 5–10%,	

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Energy efficiency	Ensure site team is effectively trained to optimise the BMS/BEMS	CPD scheduled for Facilities Manager and Site Managers	SBM Site Team	Ensure your site manager or caretaker is trained in how to monitor and effectively manage the controls on the school's BMS/BEMS systems. If you are using an energy monitoring system, then staff should be given access to CPD training courses to fully understand this so they can make use of this monitoring data to manage their systems.	
Energy efficiency	Monitor energy use on a regular basis through dedicated platforms	Use of utilities are tracked on a monthly basis in line with financial monitoring. Have an eco-display board to demonstrate to pupils the usage for the previous month	SBM Site Team	Use an energy monitoring platform (e.g. Energy Sparks) to visualise and understand your energy usage. Use the data to look for patterns in day-to-day energy consumption and assess your energy baseload (how much energy you use	

				continually). Armed with this information, you can decide where and when is best to target energy savings. If you are already sending your energy data to your provider, get in touch with them and ask them for access.	

Key Area 2: Climate adaptation and resilience: Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages

2026 - 2028

Focus	Objective	Actions	Lead Person/s	Resources	Evaluation of Impact
Resilience and adaptation	Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of overheating from climate change by installing sail shading.	Sunshades to be serviced every year to ensure safety and prolong impact.	SBM Site Team	Compendium of solar shading measures As part of the London Climate Resilient Schools project run by the GLA, Arup produced a Compendium of Adaptation and Resilience Measures for Schools. See Section D for solar shading measures, including maintenance requirements, co-benefits and estimated costs.	
Water Conservation	Prepare our schools for the physical impacts of climate change by installing water efficient fixtures.	To arrange for water saving visit to Swinton and craig Hall to identify the possibility of leaks. Conduct a review/ audit of water fixtures. Identify possible areas of efficiency. Measures: Low-flow taps Dual flush toilets Install fixtures.	SBM Site Team	Free water saving visits | United Utilities Will check for any leaks and may be able to offer free water saving devices inside the building	

Resilience and adaptation	Adapt the current adverse weather policy to include periods of heat	To update adverse weather policy by including:- Daily weather reporting system to ensure staff are aware of need to safeguard pupils and themselves To consider methods to ensure pupils and staff remain hydrated in the adverse heat conditions	SBM Site Team	See 'Let's Cool our School' resource' and also https://neu.org.uk/latest/library/joint-union-heatwave-protocol	

Key Area 3: Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure: Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond

2026 - 2028

Focus	Objective	Actions	Lead Person/s	Resources	Evaluation of Impact
Keep the school environment safe	School is safe, tidy and maintained	Regular litter picks completed around school site	Eco Committee Outdoor Learning Lead AHT (Curriculum) Site Team		
Climate education and green careers	Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity through our Eco Committee	Grow plants/veg/fruit and get pupils involved in maintenance / harvest.	Eco Committee Outdoor Learning Lead AHT (Curriculum)	Browse Resources | Education Nature Park has resources to help pupils investigate and survey what lives on their school grounds Big Schools' Birdwatch Resource outlines features that schools can introduce to enhance biodiversity: increasing_biodiversity_school_grounds.pdf School gardening / RHS resources and activities aligned with the school calendar	
Green Infrastructure	Enlarge the sensory garden to support pupil well-being and connect them with nature	Enrol with Home | Education Nature Park	Outdoor Learning Lead AHT (Curriculum) Science and DT Team Eco Committee	nature_connection_for_schools.pdf great resource which outlines the 'why' and 'how' of connecting pupils with nature	

Key Area 4: Climate Education, Green Skills and Green Careers: Ensuring the education you provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that your teaching staff feel supported to offer this

2026 - 2028

Focus	Objective	Actions	Lead Person/s	Resources	Evaluation of Impact
Climate Education	Whole school approach which incorporates climate change into the curriculum and school life	Work with all subject leaders to ensure clear links are made within their curriculum subjects with climate change and sustainability. Subject leads to audit long term plans and make clear links with climate change and sustainability. English lead to ensure there is availability of texts within the library which focus on sustainability and climate change. Continue to develop the curriculum plan to teach children about the natural world, nature in their local area, for example habitats, weather patterns, flora and fauna. Use the outdoor learning opportunities to support mental health and well-being, learner led exploration and discovery.	AHT (Curriculum) Science and DT Team Culture Team Outdoor Learning Lead	Book List – Our Schools, Our World has lots of options to incorporate sustainability topics. Curriculum for a Changing Climate can be used to see where tweaks to your existing curriculum could be made A-Curriculum-for-Climate-Literacy.pdf	
Green Skills and Green Careers	Develop Pupil Voice to understand and express their own climate change initiatives and projects	Schol Council to meet to discuss Eco initiatives at Springwood as a standing item on agenda	School Council Lead Eco Committee AHT (Curriculum)	Home - Eco Schools provides a good pathway for this	