

Commonswood Primary & Nursery School Climate Action Plan

2025-2027



Vision and Goals

We believe that all children attending Commonswood Primary & Nursery School should understand the important part they play in combating climate change.

We aim to:

- Build a school culture that values sustainability and environmental responsibility.
- Reduce the school's carbon footprint year by year.
- Help pupils understand climate change in age-appropriate, hopeful ways.
- Encourage hands-on learning and community involvement.

What is biodiversity? Biodiversity is the variety of living things on Earth. It's all the different plants and animals working together to keep nature healthy.

A forest with birds, squirrels, mushrooms, flowers, and bugs

A pond with frogs, fish, plants, and dragonflies

A garden with bees, worms, butterflies, and vegetables

Why It Matters

- More variety means nature is stronger
- Animals and plants help each other survive
- We need biodiversity for food, clean air, and a healthy planet

<p>Pupil Leadership Establish an Eco-Committee or Green Team. Pupils have the responsibility and ownership of the plan and reviews - communicating to the teachers, headteacher, other committees, children and parents Lead campaigns and ideas.</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for: Monthly meetings Updates and campaign information shared in assemblies Termly sharing of ideas with school council, wellbeing committee and school leaders Termly report to parents and children on the school's newsletter (News on the Ninth) Termly update to Governors on priorities, actions and impact</p>
<p>Curriculum Integration Across Subjects Science: weather, habitats, renewable energy, recycling, plant growth. Geography: climate zones, local environment, global citizenship. RE Global citizenship Maths: data handling using energy use, waste audits, school travel surveys. English: persuasive writing on environmental issues, eco-stories, debates. Art/DT: nature art Picture News – electronic newspaper discussions for Nursery to Year 6 pupils each week. Including good news stories</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>

<p>Oracy Discussions, debates, sharing of ideas, Pupils talking, listening, and building on each other's thinking. I agree because... I'd like to challenge that idea... Building on your point... Can you clarify what you mean by... My evidence for this is...</p> <p>Think-Pair-Share: Students reflect individually, discuss with a partner, then share with the class/another group. Sustainability Carousel: Groups rotate around stations with different eco-topics (energy, waste, food, transport). Fishbowl Conversation: A small group discusses a sustainability question while others observe and later join in. Role-Play Council Meeting: Students take on roles (scientist, business owner, activist, politician) and debate a local environmental issue.</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for: Confident speakers who can articulate environmental issues. Critical thinkers who evaluate evidence and arguments. Collaborative learners who listen actively and build shared solutions. A classroom culture where sustainability is explored through dialogue, not just facts.</p>
<p>Whole-School Projects Eco-week or climate awareness month. Outdoor learning afternoons. Pupil-led assemblies to share campaign information and priorities on sustainability. Joint committee work sharing ideas with wellbeing committee and school council</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>

<p>Energy and Resource Use Energy Reduction including an efficient boiler Switch-off campaigns for lights, screens, and devices. Classroom “Energy Monitors,” for each class including the use of lights and air-conditioning Review heating schedules and ensure thermostats are set appropriately. Continue to use LED lighting and motion sensors where possible. Water Conservation Fix leaks promptly. Turn off the tap campaign Learning about responsible water use.</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>
<p>Waste and Recycling Use the whole page Campaign – underlining and using full page every time. Measure food waste – waste-free week challenge Eradicate single-use plastics – relaunch school council campaign Run a “waste-free lunch” challenge for packed lunches Recycle uniform Continue books into the next year group to avoid paper waste. Gradual update of display boards to avoid the use of backing paper and borders.</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for: Pre-loved uniform, PE kit, Wellington boots, Christmas jumpers – online shop -packaged in recycled bags. Exercise books passed up New display boards in place across the school</p>
<p>School Grounds and Biodiversity Plant wildflower areas, and pollinator-friendly meadow – keep trying Create habitats: bug hotels, bird feeders, hedgehog houses. Grow food in the allotments Pond maintenance Continue to use the grounds for outdoor learning</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>

<p>Travel and Transport Promote walking, cycling, and scooting to school. Bike/scooter training and safety sessions. Bike shed and cycle pods at all entrances including nursery Continue with the school travel plan. Maintain high standards of achievement</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>
<p>Food and Catering Reduce food waste through portion control and education. Encourage local or seasonal produce where possible. Run cooking lessons using garden produce.</p>	<p>Outcomes we can aim for:</p>