



Climate Change and Sustainability Policy

In the spirit of St. Martin, the Centurion Saint, we are a welcoming and inclusive community where every individual is celebrated. As we journey together through exploration and learning, our curriculum strives to promote local and global citizens who realise they have the power to change. Our high expectations for all, underpinned by our core Christian values of Wisdom, Courage and Respect, allow us to challenge everybody to be the best they can be.

This Policy has been created to ensure that the children of Ancaster lead a full, happy and healthy lifestyle whilst caring for the environment and our planet. This policy should be read alongside our Climate Change and Sustainability policy.



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1. Aims and Values

In line with the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy and the UK's goal of achieving Net Zero by 2050, we are showing our commitment through this policy and our actions that we are adapting and willing to change.

It is important for the school community to have an awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment in which they live, work and relax. To do this, we need to take responsibility for our own actions and we need to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live. We encourage both staff and pupils to think about their environment and how their actions impact upon the local, national and global picture. To this end we encourage and reinforce environmental education in all aspects of everyday life and the wider community in relation to climate change and sustainability.

Our school's values of Courage, Wisdom and Respect are captured in our Eco-Code which identifies our commitments to improving environmental performance.

Together we will learn – we will learn about the impact of climate change and how we can reduce it. We are committed to becoming an Eco-School in the future and aim to work towards being recognised for this through the Eco-Schools awards system.

Our targets within our action plan support our policy and are:

Decarbonisation: We are taking steps to reduce our school's carbon footprint through energy efficiency, responsible travel, and smarter resource use

Biodiversity: We aim to enhance biodiversity on our school site to support local ecosystems and create opportunities for learning outdoors

Adaptation & Resilience: We are preparing our school community for the impacts of climate change by building awareness, developing sustainable habits, and improving our school's resilience.

Climate Education & Green Careers: We are embedding sustainability across the curriculum to build knowledge, encourage action, and promote green careers.

2. Roles and responsibilities

A range of stakeholders will take on responsibility for executing the sustainability and climate change policy and its corresponding action plan.

Role Responsibilities Headteacher and senior leaders

- Make sure staff CPD plans cover sustainability, e.g. including climate change and sustainability, and providing sustainable usage training for all staff
- Review subject policies with an eye to sustainability and quality outdoor education
- Work with the school business leader who in turn will work with premises staff to look at where to invest money to reduce carbon emissions, and improve sustainability and resilience



- Develop and deliver our school's school development plan
- Communicate the sustainability policy to the school community - Sustainability lead
- Receive carbon literacy training and co-ordinate delivery of this training to all staff (as required)
- Promote whole-school participation in environmental awareness
- Lead a whole school sustainably audit to identify current and future opportunities for change

Subject Leaders

- Identifying opportunities to teach about the natural world and sustainable practices
- Identify ways to reduce usage and waste when teaching their subjects
- Incorporate Forest School and outdoor education into their curriculum area

School Business Leader

- Carry out sustainable procurement practices by considering usage, waste and supply chains as part of the assessment and validation criteria used when purchasing goods and services
- Identify funding opportunities for sustainable development and lead bids for that funding, e.g. smart meters, low-carbon boiler replacement
- Communicate waste reduction practices in school to encourage sustainable and cost-effective behaviour, e.g. limiting printing, and turning off lights

Site Caretaker

- Keep the school site clean and safe for effective outdoor learning
- Make sure all lights, taps, and unnecessary appliances are switched off at the end of each day
- Conduct energy and water usage audits at the end of every term

Governors

- Approve policies that have been reviewed with an eye to sustainability and quality outdoor education
- Monitor progress of our school's climate actions
- Communicate school-wide values of environmentalism, sustainability and respect for the natural world



3. Curriculum and Learning

We aim to provide pupils with knowledge, skills and understanding of biodiversity and sustainability, by embedding the topics throughout our curriculum. Example of this this could include:

- Science – recognising and encouraging of biodiversity

- PSHE - climate change, recycling
- DT – exploring sustainable materials, seasonal products and food air miles
- Geography – responsible use and management of water, deforestation Children will have opportunities to learn about the natural world, sustainability and climate change beyond the classroom through assemblies, themed events, guest speakers and themed days.

Become members of the Eco Schools programme. The structure of the Eco-Schools process is made up of seven steps, and this forms the basis of the programme. The seven steps include:

Eco Committee, Environmental Review, Action Plan, linking to the curriculum, Monitoring and Evaluation, Involving the whole school and the wider community, Eco Code.

Ancaster Church of England Primary School will have an established Eco-Committee consisting of pupils and staff who are passionate about improving sustainability and climate change. The committee empowers pupil voice to initiate and sustain change. The school will aim to have a Forest Schools and Gardening club to encourage children to learn about nature outside of the curriculum. The school aims to work within the local and international community to raise awareness and learn from others. Locally may include working with other schools within the area, charities, businesses or religious groups and internationally could include partnerships that we have with other schools.

Be aware of wasting paper and other resources. Use exercise books for direct writing. Maths and drawing, reduce use of worksheets, glue, and the use of the photocopier. Pre-populated worksheets do not allow for children to practice their handwriting, numbers and do not allow for listening and learning skills. Encourage children to become independent and eco-friendly learners, taking pride in their learning and their planet.

4. Food and Catering

We aim to make the use of food and catering sustainable at Ancaster Church of England Primary School through:

- Committing to using locally sourced food for our school lunches wherever possible, working with our providers
- Committing to reducing food waste that is generated
- Promoting pupils' understanding of food and where it comes from
- Committing to reducing the amount of single use plastics within the school kitchen
- Committing to reducing energy waste in the food preparation and transportation process



- Exploring the possibility of participating in ‘Meat-free Mondays’ or another scheme to reduce high-carbon food in your menus

5. Waste and Recycling

We aim to reduce the amount of waste that the school produces through sustainable consumption and adopting the philosophy of ‘reduce, reuse and recycle. As well as reducing waste, our approach has the potential to reduce costs.

Recycling

- We have clearly labelled bins throughout the school for recycling, food waste and general waste, and communication on how to use them
- We will teach pupils about the different types of bin they might have in their homes, and encourage them to continue good recycling habits when they’re not at school
- We aim to recycle some ‘difficult’ to dispose of items, such as printer toners

Reducing Waste

- We will reduce paper waste by printing on both sides of paper wherever possible, having scrap-paper drawers and using emails as much as possible
- Staff will be encouraged to consider what materials can be reused
- We encourage pupils to bring reusable water bottles into school rather than using disposable, single-use plastics
- We are aiming to eliminate the use of single use plastics within school
- Children are encouraged to treat resources and equipment with respect, item will be repaired whenever possible
- Refillable soap dispensers are used in toilets
- We have a fresh fruit and vegetables snack policy for break time which reduces plastic packaging Pa

Purchasing

We will consider sustainability as part of the assessment and validation criteria for including suppliers on procurement frameworks, to support the sustainable purchasing of products and services

- We run a second-hand shop for uniforms



6. Energy and Water

Energy and water conservation are two essential areas for schools to tackle. Eco-efficiency measures can help schools to reduce their need for energy and water, as well as reducing their environmental impact. Strategies at Ancaster Church of England Primary School to reduce energy and water consumption include:

- Switching off lights, air conditioning, fans and appliances when they are not in use
- Electronic timers on laptop and iPad chargers to reduce energy consumption
- Switching off devices such as printers, photocopiers, laptop and iPad charging units during holiday periods
- The school has automatic light sensors in places throughout the school
- Signs are in place to remind people to turn off light switches and taps after use
- We keep outside doors closed in cold weather
- Where possible, push water taps are fitted in toilets to ensure taps do not stay on
- Other initiatives of energy and water saving are explored e.g. light instillation or introducing hippo bags into toilet flushing systems

7. Transport and Travel

Ancaster Church of England Primary School promotes safe and sustainable transport and travel by:

- We offer bikeability lessons for pupils
- All children engage in Road Safety talks
- We encourage staff to share lifts to off-site training wherever possible to reduce car use
- We share road safety reminders with parents on a regular basis relating to pick up and drop offs at the start and end of the school day
- We have members of staff to monitor and support road safety for pedestrians at the start and end of the day, including the enforcement of not parking or stopping on the road markings

8. Buildings and Grounds

Ancaster Church of England Primary School promotes sustainability and educates on climate change through the use of its building and grounds by:

- Making sure that there are enough rubbish bins
- Organising a litter-picking scheme to keep your school site clean



- Identify and protect existing natural habitats on the school site, and use them as an opportunity to teach pupils about the natural world
- Making and developing new areas of biodiversity on the school site
- Providing opportunities for outside learning opportunities

Policy Date: Autumn Date 2025

Policy Review: Autumn Term 2027

