

Climate Action Plan – Ashbourne Primary School 2025



Sustainability Lead: Heather Davis

Steering Group: Vicky Howell (Curriculum Leader/Assistant Head), Amy Peach (Business Manager), Clive Avery (Site Manager), Kythe Beresford (Eco Council), Chelsea Dakin (Catering Manager).

Ashbourne Primary School’s Vision & Commitment

Our school is part of ACE Derbyshire Trust.

Ashbourne Primary School is committed to preparing our pupils for a sustainable future by embedding environmental responsibility into our curriculum, daily practice and community. Our goal is to reduce the school’s carbon footprint, promote environmental stewardship, and equip pupils with the knowledge, skills and values to care for the planet.

This plan is aligned with the Department for Education’s Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, which requires all schools to appoint a sustainability lead and implement a climate action plan by 2025. The plan covers four key areas: Decarbonisation, Adaptation & Resilience, Biodiversity and Climate Education & Green Careers.

Action Plan Table

Priority area	Action	Responsible	Timeline / Completion Date	Linked DfE Guidance Area
Energy & Resources	Conduct an energy audit (lighting, heating, appliances)	Site Manager / Headteacher	Short-term (within 12 months)	Decarbonisation – Net Zero by 2050 (Energy & Estates)
	Transition to LED lighting and improve heating controls	Site Manager / Governors	Medium-term (1–3 years)	Decarbonisation – Resource efficiency & decarbonisation
	Adjust heating and cooling systems for efficiency (e.g., thermostat control).	Site Manager / Governors	Short – medium term	Decarbonisation – Resource efficiency & decarbonisation

	Explore renewable energy options (e.g., solar panels via grants/funding).	Governors / Trust Leadership	Long-term (3–5 years)	Decarbonisation – Renewable energy
	Promote paperless communication with parents where possible.	Admin team/SLT	Short term (within 12 months)	Decarbonisation – resources efficiency -sustainable consumption
Waste & Recycling	Reduce single-use plastics; introduce recycling stations	Staff & Catering Manager	Short-term (within 12 months)	Decarbonisation / Biodiversity – Sustainable consumption & waste
	Reuse resources (stationery, art supplies, uniforms through swap shops).	ECO council/Admin team	Short term (within 12 months)	Decarbonisation/circular economy
	Launch a food waste reduction initiative (portion control, composting, redistribution).	Catering Manager / Pupils	Short-term (within 2 years)	Adaptation & Biodiversity – Waste reduction & circular economy
Curriculum & Learning	Launch Eco-Council and embed climate education across curriculum	Eco-Council / Curriculum Lead	Short-term (within 12 months)	Climate Education & Green Careers
	Develop school garden, plant wildflowers, install bug hotels	Grounds Team / Eco-Council	Short–Medium term (within 12-24 months)	Biodiversity – Enhancing nature on site
	Celebrate global events (Earth Day, World Environment Day).	Eco-Council/SLT	Short term (within 12 months)	Climate Education & Green Careers
	Outdoor learning and forest school sessions to	Teachers	Ongoing	Biodiversity – Enhancing nature on site

	build connection with nature.			
	Invite guest speakers / workshops on sustainability and climate action.	SLT	Medium term (within 12-24 months)	Climate Education & Green Careers
Travel & Transport	Promote active travel (walking, cycling schemes)	SLT	Short-term (within 12 months)	Decarbonisation – Travel & transport; Climate Education
	Provide more cycle/scooter storage and consider a bike-to-school scheme.	SLT/governors	Medium term (within 12-24 months)	Decarbonisation – travel & transport
School Grounds & Biodiversity	Redevelop a school garden / allotment for growing fruit and vegetables.	SLT/pupils	Medium term (within 2 years)	Biodiversity- enhancing nature& sustainable food
	Plant trees, shrubs, and wildflowers to encourage biodiversity.	Grounds team/pupils	ongoing	Biodiversity-nature recovery
	Install bird feeders, bug hotels, and hedgehog homes with pupil involvement.	Pupils /SLT	Short term (within 12-24 months)	Biodiversity- enhancing nature on site
	Use outdoor spaces for sustainable play and learning.	Teachers/SLT	Ongoing	Biodiversity/climate education
	Minimise use of pesticides and peat-based products.	Grounds team	Ongoing	Biodiversity- sustainable land management

Community & Partnerships	Share progress with parents via newsletters and school website.	SLT/admin	termly	Community engagement & climate education
	Encourage community involvement in tree planting, clean-up days, or repair cafés	SLT	annual	Community engagement & climate education
	Partner with local organisations (council, wildlife trusts, recycling charities).	SLT	ongoing	Community engagement & climate education
Trust wide procurement	Green Procurement Policy (stationery, catering, cleaning products)	CFO/SBOs	Medium-term	Decarbonisation / Sustainable consumption
Monitoring & Accountability	Monitor and report on energy, waste, biodiversity targets	Climate Steering Group	Annual review	All four areas – monitoring impact & accountability
	Appoint a Sustainability Lead	SLT / Governors	Short-term (by 2025)	Sustainability leadership – DfE mandatory requirement
	Staff CPD on Climate & Sustainability	SLT / CPD Lead	Ongoing	Climate Education & Green Skills