

# Climate Action Plan

## Abbey Hill Primary School and Nursery

1 year plan Summer 2025 - 2026

Carbon baseline: 223.14 tCo2e    Calculation: May 25



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### GETTING STARTED

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Sign up to the <a href="#">Let's Go Zero</a> campaign ★</p> <p>By joining this campaign, your school confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all schools reach this goal by the end of the decade.</p>	Sept 24			Completed
<p>Calculate your school's carbon footprint using <a href="#">Count Your Carbon</a> ★</p> <p>This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting.</p>	May 25			Completed
<p>Sign up to the <a href="#">Sustainability Hub for Education</a></p> <p>A DfE-funded project that offers suggested actions paired with quality-assured resources. You can filter these to show suggestions relevant to your setting based on your teaching age, priorities, how far you've progressed already, estate, and more.</p>	Jul 25			Completed



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**Your schools total carbon footprint is estimated to be: 223.14 tonnes co<sub>2</sub>e\* per year**

Operational area	Emissions area	t co <sub>2</sub> e*	% of footprint
Energy & Utilities	Fuel Usage	53.3	24%
	Electricity Usage	45	20%
	Waste Usage	0.1	0%
	Water Usage	1.2	<1%
Transport	Vehicles	0	0%
	School Trips	0.6	<1%
	Student Commutes	5.7	3%
	Staff Commutes	8.2	4%
Food & Drink	Meals	33.4	15%
Purchases	Spending	23.9	11%
	Uniforms	51.7	23%



\*'t co<sub>2</sub>e' or 'co<sub>2</sub>e' tonnes means 'tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent'. Under the GHG protocol, 7 greenhouse gases are tracked and summarised as the equivalent amount of Carbon Dioxide that would produce the same warming effect.



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# 1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient

ENERGY – BEHAVIOUR CHANGE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Monitor energy use on a regular basis through platforms such as Energy Sparks</b></p> <p>Sign up to <a href="#">Energy Sparks</a> <b>Requires Smart Meter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses schools' own smart meter data to display energy usage</li> <li>• Focus on educational no and low cost energy saving</li> <li>• Pupil led activities</li> <li>• Average primary saves 10% in first year - £3k / 12.8 t CO2</li> </ul>	Summer 25	DP	<p>Possibility to liaise with shared-site partner school, TBC</p> <p>Book a demo: <a href="https://energysparks.uk/campaigns/book-demo">https://energysparks.uk/campaigns/book-demo</a></p>	
<p><b>Use Systemslink to monitor energy use</b></p>	Autumn 25	DP		
<p><b>Incentivise students to address energy usage eg Energy Champions initiative</b></p> <p>Proactively engage and empower the student body to take a lead in promoting and implementing energy efficient behaviour changes to help save costs, reduce emissions, and make their setting more sustainable.</p> <p>Free resources: <a href="#">Energy Sparks</a></p>	Autumn 25	DP	Conversation and ideas canvassing with school parliament	
<p><b>Take part in a switch off campaign</b> ★</p> <p>Take part in a Switch-Off campaign, e.g. Switch-Off Fortnight. Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools). <a href="https://jointhepod.org/campaigns/sof25">https://jointhepod.org/campaigns/sof25</a></p>	Nov 25	DP		
<p><b>Ensure site staff are trained to optimise the BMS</b></p>	Autumn 25		Review timings during annual boiler service	



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Ensure BMS/BEMS has efficient timings and temperatures set for the school day e.g. 6am-1pm at 18 degrees in classrooms and off during evenings/weekends and holidays. Check hot water system has similar efficient timings and temperature set.  <a href="#">Energy efficiency: guidance for the school and further education college estate - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>				
<b>Commission an energy audit or heat decarbonisation plan</b> This is a top recommendation for schools to reduce energy costs and will help you to identify and prioritise the next steps with energy retrofit options and measurements for your school.	2025/6	Transform	Support from Midlands Net Zero Hub Sibel Yalmaz <a href="mailto:sibel.yalmaz@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">sibel.yalmaz@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> or Barker Associates Robert Gould <a href="mailto:rgould@barker-associates.co.uk">rgould@barker-associates.co.uk</a> LCSF Phase 6 – any announcements for 2025: <a href="#">Low Carbon Skills Fund: working with organisations to plan their net zero future</a>   Salix Finance	

### ENERGY – BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Investigate the potential for solar panels</b> ★ Investigate solar providers: aim to compare quotes from at least 3 different providers to check you are getting value for money and pricing that works well for you. For a no capital approach try <a href="#">Solar for Schools</a> ; for advice on all funding and project models contact <a href="#">Barker   Education Property Consultants</a> See this <a href="#">solar advice from DfE</a> with handy checklist.		AH, AJN	Solar for Schools - <b>Abbey Hill Primary (150098)</b> – Nottinghamshire: Smaller site, but <b>NG grant</b> could help make it viable.	
<b>Install LED lighting</b> Replace any remaining older lighting fixtures with LEDs and install motion sensors in any high traffic areas. The DfE suggests LED installation can reduce energy consumption from lighting by over 84%.	2025/6	JPC	School site works includes plans for all lights to be replaced	
<b>Install timer-controlled electric switches e.g. laptop charging banks to reduce energy required to charge or laptop updates overnight</b>	Autumn 25	MN and AIT		



Using timer-controlled switches on laptop charging banks to charge them overnight will allow you to take advantage of the cheapest energy rates, while also saving energy by limiting the length of time they are drawing power.				
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PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Reuse resources</b> Establish procedures for the reuse of school supplies either within school or through sites such as <a href="#">School Resources Exchange</a> and <a href="#">Collecteco</a> (furniture)	Ongoing	JPC	Ebay Server for example	
<b>Reuse school uniform and PE kit through a uniform exchange</b> Reuse school uniform through a pop-up Uniform Exchange or on sites such as <a href="#">Uniformerly – Buy, Sell and Give Away outgrown school uniform</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase opportunities for families to access uniform swap shop</li> <li>Reframe uniform reuse away from 'for those in need' to positive climate action</li> <li>Educate pupils and parents on the high carbon impact of clothing and the importance of reuse</li> <li>Include dress-up day items, wellies etc</li> </ul>	Summer 25	CM, HCH		
<b>Switch to recycled or sustainably sourced paper</b> Purchase paper from sustainable forestry (e.g. FSC or PEFC certified) or recycled paper to reduce the impact of printing. This, combined with printing reduction strategies, can have a beneficial impact on both cost and carbon.				

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Explain reasons for eating less meat during lessons, assemblies etc. Promote plant-based menu options.</b> Aim to increase uptake of plant-based meals through pupil-led assemblies	Autumn 25	AJN or DP		



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Primary:</b> Use Proveg <a href="#">Canteen to Classroom lessons</a> to explain the carbon impact of food choices.</li> </ul>				
<b>Have separate bins for food waste in the kitchen/ cafeteria/ dining room/ staff room</b> Organise food waste caddies for all appropriate spaces and divert all food waste out of general waste and into either your composter or your food waste collection, as appropriate.	2026			
<b>Start or improve composting on school site</b> To get started, ask your school community for unwanted compost bins and start to compost fruit and veg waste on site, e.g. snack-time fruit can easily be collected and taken out on a daily basis by class monitors. <a href="#">More info on setting up composting here</a>	Sept 25	DP		

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Run active travel campaigns</b> Participate in annual Active Travel Weeks: Living Streets, Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel and Cycle to School Week. Aim for these events to trigger a permanent shift to sustainable travel from students who live locally enough to do so. Walk to school week May 2025 <a href="#">Primary Schools</a> Clean Air day June 19 <sup>th</sup> 2025 <a href="#">Clean Air Day   Schools resources</a> Cycle to school week <a href="#">Cycle to school week Sept 2025</a> Big walk and wheel Mar/Apr 26 <a href="#">Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2025</a>	2025/6	DP		
<b>Encourage staff to carpool</b> There are many apps that can help with this, or alternatively a simple sign-up sheet in the staff office works well!	Autumn 25	AJN	Other Transform schools going to the same events	

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER



<p><b>Ensure recycling bins are in all key areas e.g. classrooms, corridors, playgrounds, cafeteria and staffroom and are labelled clearly</b></p> <p>Help make choosing to recycle easy. Consider colour differences to highlight general vs recycling clearly.</p> <p>Clear signage on bins supports behaviour change. Pupils design them? or <a href="#">Wastebusters</a> have signs and resources designed for primary age and food waste bin labels on <a href="#">Guardians of Grub</a>.</p>	Aut '25		Recycling pens <a href="http://www.edding.com/returnbox">www.edding.com/returnbox</a>	
<p><b>Education around waste minimisation and recycling as part of assemblies or other whole school opportunities</b></p> <p>Deliver assembly/ information to students regarding what is to be put in each bin. <a href="#">Young Climate Warriors</a> provide slides/ assemblies</p> <p><b>Do a waste audit</b> and encourage students to take part in the whole process. Wastebusters have a helpful <a href="#">step-by-step guide</a> for this.</p>	Start: Review:		School Parliament have flagged this to Transform	
<p><b>Waste reduction projects</b></p> <p><b>Look at reducing the amount of waste produced in school</b></p> <p><b>Explore consolidation of your bins to reduce the amount you're paying?</b></p>	ASAP	AJN	<p>An award to reduce waste with kids at the heart of the action. International Day of Action in November, where students connect with peers across Europe and in the Caribbean. For primary schools only. <a href="#">Plastic Clever Schools – Reducing single use plastics</a></p> <p><a href="#">L&amp;Z Webinar Minimising Waste in Schools</a> Hear from a school in Lewisham who are doing amazing projects to minimise waste and more. Hear from WRAP, a climate action NGO working around the globe to tackle the causes of the climate crisis and give the planet a sustainable future. Watch the webinar below to hear how they can support your school.</p>	
<p><b>Weigh food waste from kitchen and plates and share results</b></p> <p>Get your students involved in daily weigh-ins of food waste as part of their curriculum or eco-club activities to enhance their understanding of the scale of food wastage, and feed this back to your school caterer to make necessary changes to dishes/menu.</p> <p><a href="#">Find out exactly how much food your school is wasting   Energy Sparks</a></p>			<p><a href="#">ReFood Education   Educating the next generation about food waste</a></p> <p>Two lesson plans about the journey of food waste, including explanation of anaerobic digestion.</p> <p><a href="#">Food: Food Waste   Better Planet Education</a> These resources comprise a set of informative teacher notes (including suggested learning activities) that run alongside a Powerpoint presentation filled with images to facilitate learning. Aimed at Key Stage 3, but also relevant for Key Stages 2 and 4.</p>	

## 2. Climate adaptation and resilience

Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages



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## ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Write a heatwave policy/guidance that addresses areas such as school dress code, passive ventilation measures, PE lessons and slip slap slop campaigns</b> ★</p> <p>Write a heat wave policy to address issues such as uniform, PE, sunscreen and outdoor learning. Consider adopting the <a href="#">joint union heatwave protocol</a> including short term, medium term and long term measures.</p>	July 25		Uniform policy incorporates adaptations for hot weather	
<p><b>Conduct a heat audit of the school site checking that windows and blinds open and close.</b></p> <p>Use the site team to check that all windows and blinds are operational to allow staff to control their own spaces effectively.</p>	Start: Review:			
<p><b>Conduct a grounds audit using Ltl tool for climate resilience</b></p> <p>Conduct a climate resilience audit of the school site, e.g. to check all windows and blinds open and close, guttering, planting etc. The <a href="#">Climate Ready School Grounds survey</a> from Learning Through Landscapes covers all weather conditions and involves students' opinions of their grounds.</p>				

## WATER

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Install water butts</b></p> <p>Capture rainwater to use on plants around school - and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours.</p>	25/26	CM, MN, DP	Explore possible funding	
<p><b>Raise awareness around water consumption</b> and efficiency - make the most of free assemblies to engage and inform the school community <a href="#">Severn Trent</a> Education.</p>	Summer 25	DP		

### 3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond



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NATURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Register with <a href="#">The National Education Nature Park</a></b></p> <p>The Nature Park aims to embed nature-based learning in the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.</p> <p><b>Map your <a href="#">site boundary</a> (you will need a computer with internet and your URN)</b> Completing your site boundary means that your setting will be visible on the <a href="#">Nature Park map</a>, you will find out the size of your site and this figure will be added to the total size of the Nature Park and enables all the data you collect to be associated with your setting allowing you to measure your gains.</p> <p><b>Make a start in mapping your habitats using the <a href="#">habitat mapper tool</a></b> We suggest you start with your large habitat areas (ground without plants/grassland). Involve your pupils where possible – resources as a starting point for each habitat found <a href="#">here</a> (scroll to the bottom).</p>	Summer 25	DP	Support with registering, mapping your site boundary and mapping your site can be provided by your East Midlands regional Nature Park team – <a href="mailto:eastmidlandsnaturepark@ltd.org.uk">eastmidlandsnaturepark@ltd.org.uk</a>	
<p><b>Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys</b></p> <p>Conduct <a href="#">wildlife surveys</a>, <a href="#">pollinator counts</a> and <a href="#">habitat mapping</a> using the Nature Park resources or take part in activities such as the <a href="#">Big Birdwatch</a> with the RSPB.</p>		DP		
<p><b>Increase planting/decrease mowing to support wildlife</b></p> <p>Plant free trees &amp; hedges, e.g. Tree Council/Woodland Trust</p> <p>Avoid pesticides and herbicides</p> <p>Take part in No Mo May <a href="#">Plantlife's No Mow May Movement</a></p>		DP	Explore funding opportunities <a href="#">Finding funding   Education Nature Park</a>	
<p><b>Plant trees:</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">Orchards for Schools - The Tree Council</a> (applications currently closed but register your EOI)</b> For free, bespoke training, resources, and tree and hedgerow packs to enable children and teachers to grow their connections, knowledge, skills and passion for trees and nature while improving the treescape and biodiversity on their school grounds.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust</a></b> The Woodland Trust is giving hundreds of thousands of trees away to schools every year. Deliveries are made twice a year, in March and November. Applications are</p>		DP	Access community funds ( <a href="#">Severn Trent</a> , <a href="#">Tesco Stronger Starts</a> , <a href="#">Morrisons Foundation</a> , Veolia or similar)	



open for tree packs due to be delivered in from Nov 2025; application window closes August 25.  <a href="#">Tree Tools for Schools – Woodland Trust</a> Practical tools include planting planners and tree planting care and maintenance advice.				
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## 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

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Complete a curriculum audit &amp; incorporate sustainability</b></p> <p><a href="#">Teach the Future</a> have  useful resources on how to link the curriculum to sustainability.</p>	2025/6	DP	<a href="#">MoEE</a> also has very helpful resources on this.	
<p><b>Survey staff on how they feel about teaching sustainability issues</b></p>				
<p><b>Create a 'Forest School' environment where lessons can be taught outside in all subjects</b></p> <p>Using Tesco funding.</p> <p>Improve outdoor learning by setting up regular opportunities to learn in nature. You can get support and advice from the <a href="#">Forest School Association</a>.</p> <p>Nature Park <a href="#">resource page</a> include <a href="#">Write a Vision Statement</a>, <a href="#">Biodiversity Bar Charts</a>, <a href="#">Guess the Habitat</a>.</p>	Autumn 25	AJN, DP, AD, CM	<p>Develop outdoor learning - <a href="#">Learning Outside the Classroom</a></p> <p>Short blog outlining how to establish a Forest School space in urban, tarmac heavy school environments <a href="#">11 Ways to Make a Forest School - Outdoor Natural Play</a></p> <p>Contact Becky and Polly for help with anything nature and school grounds: <a href="mailto:eastmidlandsnaturepark@tfl.org.uk">eastmidlandsnaturepark@tfl.org.uk</a></p>	



## CULTURE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Consider setting up an eco-club for pupils to take leadership on issues</b> ★</p> <p>Establish a student Eco Club. Consider inclusivity and longevity of projects so that as many students as possible can take part throughout their time at school.</p>	Autumn 25	DP	<p><b>Student survey</b> : use the free <a href="#">InterClimate Network Survey and report</a> to understand student opinion/ motivation re climate</p>	
<p><b>Add sustainability goals/ projects/ successes to school website and report achievements in termly newsletters</b></p> <p>Celebrate your achievements and engage your community in your climate action plans by adding a dedicated sustainability page to your school website. You can also include links to Let's Go Zero and other organisations you are engaging with. Update it with photos or student-written blogs if you can.</p>	Autumn 25			
<p><b>Provide CPD opportunities for staff on sustainability</b></p> <p>Investigate appropriate CPD opportunities for staff, e.g. sharing existing sustainability content and developing skills</p> <p><a href="https://www.wwf.org.uk/get-involved/schools/teacher-development">https://www.wwf.org.uk/get-involved/schools/teacher-development</a></p> <p>Free webinar recordings on range of school specific sustainability <a href="#">Let's Go Zero - YouTube</a></p>	Start: Review:		<p><b>Eg Site Manager: register with the UK Schools Sustainability Network (UKSSN) Ops Group</b> (register here <a href="#">UKSSN Operations Group</a> ) with useful threads</p> <p><b>Free LGZ webinars:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Building a culture for sustainability in your school</b> Tuesday 24 June, 3:45 - 4:30pm <a href="#">Register here.</a></li> </ul>	

## GREEN SKILLS AND CAREERS

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Access the <a href="#">Climate Ambassadors</a> scheme</b></p> <p>Connect with Climate Ambassadors in your region and invite them to do a school assembly or a class workshop on a topic of interest to your school, to share their green career, or support on a particular area of climate action.</p>	Start: Review:		<p>If you're not sure what support you want or what is available - contact <a href="mailto:ca-eastmids@nottingham.ac.uk">ca-eastmids@nottingham.ac.uk</a> to find out more.</p>	
<p><b>Students calculate their carbon footprints</b></p> <p>Get students to learn what their environmental impact is via the <a href="#">WWF Footprint Calculator</a></p>				



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