



# Climate Action Plan

## Cusgarne Primary School

1 year plan Autumn 2025 – 2026



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**Your school's carbon baseline: 64.01t CO<sub>2</sub>e      Calculation: Dec 2025**

### Climate Action Plan history

Last reviewed:	December 2025
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### Your Carbon Footprint Report

Your schools total carbon footprint is estimated to be: **64.01 tonnes co<sub>2</sub>e\*** per year

Operational area	Emissions area	Scope	t co <sub>2</sub> e*	% **
Energy, Waste & Water	Fuel	1	16	25%
	Electricity	2	0	0%
	Waste	3	0	<1%
	Water	3	0.1	<1%
Transport	School vehicles	1	0	0%
	School trips	3	1.6	2%
	Student commuting	3	10.4	16%
	Staff commuting	3	4.9	8%
Food	Food	3	14.2	22%
Purchasing & Uniform	Purchasing	3	16.8	26%
	Uniform ***	Out-of-scope	0	n/a



### Progress Key

Not Started

In Progress

Stalled

Complete

\* '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.

\*\* Percentage of your carbon footprint.

\*\*\* Uniform is out-of-scope and therefore not included within the pie chart.

GET STARTED				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Sign up to the <a href="#">Let's Go Zero</a> campaign</b> 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.	Dec 25	HoS SLT	Signed us up to the campaign	
<b>Set up a sustainability working group</b> Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead' and where possible provide PPA time for this role.	Spring 26	HoS	Discuss at staff meeting in Jan with teachers	
<b>Add sustainability plans, projects and successes to your school website and share through wider communications</b> Celebrate your school's climate action on your website, in newsletters, social media, local press, and events to showcase your successes and involve the wider community. Use the Let's Go Zero comms pack to do this.	Termly	HoS Administrators	Started with pond project/wildlife area – completed dipping deck and pond dredged – Oct Half term. Shared on social media.  Create template of our sustainability successes, and update on to website – Jan 26	

# 1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

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

ENERGY – BUILDINGS AND RETROFIT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Install a smart meter</b> Contact your energy and/or water supplier to get a smart meter installed. This is an important first step to <a href="#">get data to track consumption</a> and is needed before you can sign up to energy usage analytics platforms, e.g. <a href="#">Energy Sparks</a> .	Completed	Site Mgr Hos	Energy Sparks up and running. Smart meter installed. Monitor Data.	
<b>★ Optimise your BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set</b> 18°C is the <a href="#">general recommendation</a> for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43°C (stored at 60°C). 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%, <a href="#">according to the DfE</a> .	Completed	Site Mgr	Heating goes off at 4.30pm. Ensure radiators are set to lower temperature.	
<b>Investigate the potential for solar panels</b> Find out who you need permission from and contact solar providers to check the suitability of your roof spaces and the financial models available (direct purchase, lease, community energy). Aim to compare approaches from at least three different providers to check you are getting options that work well for your setting. Providers we suggest checking with: <a href="#">Solar for Schools</a> & <a href="#">Eden Sustainable</a> .	Spring Term	Site Mgr	Check Solar for Schools and Eden Sustainable to look at viability.	

## ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Incentivise students to address energy usage</b> 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. Incentivise engagement through inter-class competitions and/or eco awards, or by electing school energy champions. <a href="#">LASER Energy</a> have a <a href="#">School Energy Action Hub</a> filled with free energy-saving resources for primary and secondary school pupils.	<b>Spring On going</b>	<b>Eco Council</b>	Energy Sparks have some good ideas and examples <a href="#">here</a> .  Climate Warriors monitor Energy use audit worksheets <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> .	
<b>Take part in a switch off campaign</b> Take part in a switch off campaign, e.g. <a href="#">Switch Off Fortnight</a> . Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools). Running campaigns before the holiday period (such as a summer switch-down) can lead to reduced energy use over the holiday period.	<b>Spring On going</b>		Green Stickers on all light switches – when we leave a room we switch off	

## FOOD

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Arrange a menu consultation with Aspens</b> Considering where and how plant-based meals are displayed on menus can reduce bias against these options, e.g. by making the vegetarian offer the default or first in the list. Engaging your catering team or provider with this is a great way to bring them on board with your sustainability efforts.	<b>Spring 26</b>	<b>HoS</b>  <b>School Council</b>  <b>Climate Warriors</b>	Agree meeting time	

<b>Start or improve composting and food waste facilities on-site</b>  Set up or improve composting for small items like snack-time fruit, as a supplement to your main regular food waste collection. Composting is a great educational tool for engaging students! To get started, ask your school community for unwanted compost bins.	<b>Autumn Term</b> <b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Class Teachers</b>  <b>HoS</b>	Bins in every room – huge progress here	
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PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
★ <b>Develop your uniform exchange and extend existing reuse practices</b>  Evaluate your uniform exchange to track how many items are being re-used, and set a target/take steps to increase its uptake e.g. improved communications to the wider school community and putting systems in place to receive uniform donations from school leavers. Make sure to include PE kit too!	Ongoing	Admin/FoC	Tracking how many items are being reused	
Switch to recycled or sustainably sourced paper 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.	Ongoing	Admin	In place	

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p><b>Provide students with education on the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling correctly</b></p> <p>Teach students about the waste hierarchy: 'Reduce -&gt; Reuse -&gt; Recycle' through a variety of assemblies, workshops and initiatives. These could be run by your eco-team, local authority, or waste contractor. Teach how recyclables are processed and the importance of reducing single-use and supporting a circular economy. Organisations such as <a href="#">Wastebuster</a> and <a href="#">Recycle Now</a> have a variety of curriculum-linked resources. Your CAA can provide additional resources on request.</p>	Spring Term	<p>Local Community connection</p> <p>Teachers – Science Curriculum</p> <p>Class Climate Warriors</p>		
<p><b>Run waste/plastic reduction initiatives or campaigns with pupils and staff</b></p> <p>Take school-wide action to reduce waste. Run an initiative yourself, or engage with a local or national campaign. For example, you could work to become a <a href="#">Plastic Free School</a> with <a href="#">Surfers Against Sewage</a> using their free resources.</p>	Spring Term	<p>Sustainability Lead</p> <p>Teachers</p>	<p>The Beach Guardian offer <a href="#">free assemblies and workshops for Cornwall schools</a></p> <p><a href="#">Final Straw Cornwall</a> run regular beach cleans</p> <p><a href="#">Plastic Clever Schools</a> also have some great resources to support schools to reduce single use plastic, and an award for participating schools.</p>	
<p><b>Aim to reuse all electricals and IT equipment to ensure only 'end of life' items are recycled</b></p> <p>Ensure you /your IT provider reuses unwanted, functioning IT equipment, rather than sending straight to recycling. These organisations will data-wipe and reuse Ongoing Aspire IT Team 5 equipment: Enviro Electronics, Air Ambulance and The Turing Trust.</p>	Ongoing	Aspire IT Support Team		

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Run active travel campaigns</b> Participate in annual Active Travel Campaigns. Your CAA can provide a list of different options (including Living Streets' <a href="#">Wow campaign</a> and Sustrans' <a href="#">Big Walk and Wheel</a> ). Aim for these events to trigger a permanent shift to sustainable travel from students who live locally enough to do so. Facilitate walking and cycling to school by establishing Park & Stride or Walking Bus initiatives. Ask the PTA or engaged parents to support with these.	Termly - Ongoing	Sustrans Families		
<b>Develop an active travel plan</b> Create and implement your school travel plan which supports cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. Explore if your local authority offers support for this (ex: contact your travel or road safety officer). <a href="#">Modeshift Stars Education</a> is an accreditation programme you can sign up to whilst creating and implementing your travel plan to track your progress and receive awards.	Summer Term	Cornwall Council Sustrans Families		
<b>Provide cycle proficiency lessons in school</b> Host cycling proficiency lessons in your school grounds, such as <a href="#">Bikeability</a> . Your local authority should be able to support you to get signed up (check with your local travel or road safety officer).	Yearly	Y5/6 Students		

## 2. Climate adaptation and resilience

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

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Conduct a climate resilience audit</b> Conduct a climate resilience audit of the school site, e.g. To check all windows and blind open and close, guttering, planting etc. <a href="#">The Climate Ready School Grounds survey</a> from Learning Through Landscapes covers all weather conditions and involves students' opinions of their grounds.	Summer Term	Sustainability Lead  Climate Warriors  Every Class		
<b>Emergency Flood Planning</b> Using the environment agency flood resource planning documents, children and adults consider the questions and flow chart to think and consider a plan, as a school, at home  Ask for flood planning (name) to come and talk to the children (KS2)	Summer Term	Sustainability Lead  Class Teachers  Parents		
<b>Ensure staff understand how to cool their rooms through cross ventilation and other context specific measures</b> Communicate to staff how best to cool their rooms through cross ventilating and maximising air flow. Ensure windows and vents can remain open to ventilate rooms and monitor CO <sub>2</sub> levels using devices.	Ongoing	Whole School		



WATER				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency</b> Consider engaging with your local water company who may have an education team or free resources on their websites, from assembly sessions and visits to primary schools for your pupils to webinars, downloadable tools and guides, and more.	Spring	Sustainability Lead  SWW workshop  KS2		
<b>Install water butts to harvest rainwater</b> Capture rainwater to use on plants and grounds around school – and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours whilst saving mains water.	Spring	Site Mgr		

### 3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

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

NATURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Take part in <a href="#">The Nature Park</a></b> <a href="#">The Nature Park</a> aims to embed nature-based learning into 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.	Spring/Summer	Sustainability lead  Climate warriors  Whole School		
<b>Establish a gardening/nature club</b> Set up a gardening and/or nature club for pupils or students to join. The club can help develop the school site for nature, outdoor learning and staff and pupil wellbeing. Engage with the wider school community for volunteer support and resources.	Summer Term	HoS  Teaching assistants		
<b>Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. add a pond, plant pollinator-friendly plants, put up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels'</b> Develop your outdoor spaces to create a mosaic of habitats and features to provide food, shelter and water for wildlife. Grant funding is often available for this, and make use of the wider community for support and resources.	Autumn Ongoing	Whole school  Parents  FOC		
<b>Create accessible outdoor spaces that enable students to connect with nature</b>	Autumn	HoS  FoC		

Identify areas in your school grounds where students can connect with nature. Ideally spaces with natural shade, space for seating and suitable access.				
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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

CULTURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Sign up to Sustainability Support for Education A DfE-funded project that enables education settings to start or progress on their sustainability journey. This includes all types of settings from Early Years to Higher Education, offering 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.	Spring Term	Sustainability Lead Science Lead		
<b>Scheduled as part of staff meetings – attend local sustainability networks &amp; events and online seminars</b>  Include sustainability networks and events in your staff CPD offer and encourage and support staff to attend. You can include the Let's Go Zero <a href="#">webinar schedule</a> in your CPD offer plus events from <a href="#">UKSSN</a> , <a href="#">National Education Nature Park</a> and other offers local to your school.	Summer Term	HoS Teachers		

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Complete a curriculum audit</b> Complete a curriculum audit to understand how and where sustainability currently features in your curriculum as well as where there are gaps. This may focus on topics as a whole or individual lessons across all subject areas. Online resources such as <a href="#">Map The Curriculum</a> may be helpful for this.	Summer Term	HoS  All teachers		
<b>Amend your curriculum to incorporate sustainability</b> Amend your curriculum to include stronger links to climate change and sustainability. This could be a total refresh, a bit of tweaking, drop down days or simply adding extra assemblies. <a href="#">Teach the Future</a> , Royal Meteorological Society ( <a href="#">Curriculum for Climate Literacy</a> ) and the <a href="#">MoEE</a> have amazing resources on how to weave sustainability throughout your curriculum.	Summer Term	All teachers		

GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<b>Access the <a href="#">Climate Ambassadors scheme</a></b> Connect with Climate Ambassadors in your region and invite them to do school assemblies on green skills and curriculum linked topics.	Autumn 26	HoS  Science Lead		