

Climate Action Plan

High Hesket CofE Primary School

2025 – 2026

Carbon baseline: 248.85 tCo2e Calculation: 26/02/25



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GET STARTED				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign 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.	Start: Review:			Complete
Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon ★ This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting.	Start: Review:			Complete
Sign up to the 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.	Start: Review:			

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
Take part in a switch off campaign 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).	Start: Review:			Planning
Ensure your BMS/BEMS has efficient timings and temperatures set for the school day e.g. 6am-1pm at 18 degrees in classrooms Reducing the temperature in a building by 1°C can save 5% to 10% of your annual heating bill. There is more specific advice in the DfE's energy efficiency guidance around ideal temperatures in different areas of the school.	Start: Review:			Planning
Commission an energy audit or heat decarbonisation plan 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.	Start: Review:		This is going to be delivered through the Westmorland & Furness Council	In progress

ENERGY – BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Explore the installation of a smart meter Contact your energy/ water supplier to get a smart meter installed. This is an important first step to get data to track consumption, and needed before you can sign up to energy usage platforms e.g. Energy Sparks	Start: Review:			Planning

Explore potential for ground/air source heat pump through LCSF & PSDS funding through local authority Have a professional assess the suitability of your school site for a ground or air source heat pump. You may be able to apply for funding for this, for example through the Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF). Government grants are often published on the SALIX website.	Start: Review:		Have a conversation with Westmorland & Furness Council about this possibility as part of your Heat Decarbonisation Plan work they're conducting in your school.	Planning
Double glaze all windows where possible Replace any single glazed windows with double glazing or add secondary glazing to enhance energy efficiency, save money, reduce external noise and create a more accessible learning environment.	Start: Review:		As and when windows reach end of life or funding is available	In progress

PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Start a uniform swap shop and promote the carbon-cutting benefits and other benefits of choosing pre-loved items.	Start: Review:			Complete

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Start or improve composting and food waste facilities (onsite) 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.	Start: Review:			Planning
Explore the possibility to work with waste collectors to organise food waste disposal and diversion to anaerobic digestion plants	Start: Review:			Planning

Contact your waste supplier to organise food waste collections separately so that it can be diverted to anaerobic digestion plants. This could lower your waste disposal bills.				
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TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Encourage families to carpool Explore carpooling amongst the school community: if you have a supportive PTA or Class Parent reps, see if it's something they could take charge of and gauge interest via class WhatsApp groups. Liftshare offers a quick way of calculating yearly savings when carpooling.	Start: Review:			Planning

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Education around recycling as part of assemblies or other whole school opportunities Deliver assembly/ information to students regarding what is to be put in each bin. Young Climate Warriors provide slides/ assemblies. Do a waste audit and encourage students to take part in the whole process. Wastebusters have a helpful step-by-step guide for this.	Start: Review:			Planning

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
Write a heatwave policy that addresses areas such as school dress code, passive ventilation measures, PE lessons and slip slap slop campaigns Write a heat wave policy to address issues such as uniform, PE, sunscreen and outdoor learning. Consider adopting the joint union heatwave protocol including short term, medium term and long term measures.	Start: Review:			Planning
Install heat reflective measures in classrooms (focus on south, east and west facing) Assess the need for solar shading on south/west/east-facing classrooms. Look at the most effective measures based on the amount of sunlight, e.g. external blinds/ awnings. Solar film can be used but may cause heat retention as well and limit light into classrooms.	Start: Review:			Planning
Subscribe to receive the UK Health Security Heat Health Alert Subscribe to the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) Heat-health Alert service . Familiarise your staff with updated DfE guidance on hot weather.	Start: Review:			Complete
Register for flood alerts from UK Gov and The Met Office websites Get flood warnings by phone, text or email via the gov.uk website or sign up to receive weather warnings from the Met Office	Start: Review:			Planning
Create a gutter checking/ cleaning/ clearing rota that ensures guttering can cope with higher levels of rainfall Ensure your site team has a gutter checking/ cleaning/ clearing rota that ensures guttering can cope with higher levels of rainfall.	Start: Review:			Complete

WATER

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
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Implement a water usage policy An effective water management programme in your school can help reduce water usage, associated costs and your environmental impact. Create a water usage policy and add signs above taps to ensure the policy is followed.	Start: Review:			Planning
Install systems to reduce water wastage e.g. controlled flow measures in bathrooms and leak detection (taps and toilets with half-flush settings) As and when your existing taps and toilet flushes approach their end of life, ensure that the replacements include flow reduction measures to save as much water as possible, e.g. push press mechanisms for taps and smaller cisterns or install water hippos to reduce water capacity in normal cisterns.	Start: Review:			In progress
Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency through workshops and displays that may be offered by your water provider (United Utilities resources)	Start: Review:			Planning
Perform a school's water audit regularly, including checking the school's water meter for leaks. United Utilities Eco-club friendly audit and caretaker's audit are helpful tools.	Start: Review:			Planning

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
Enrol with The Nature Park (NENP) ★ The NENP 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. First steps you could take: creating your site's boundaries and completing the Hidden Nature Challenge	Start: Review:			Planning
Establish a gardening/ nature club Set up a gardening club for students and consider how plants could be used and incorporated into school meals once grown to give students experience of growing their own food. Register your school with RHS Campaign for School Gardening and receive a free welcome pack containing seeds and growing resources.	Start: Review:		This club may evolve into an eco-club	Complete
Explore re-instating the dis-used pond	Start: Review:			In progress
Improve the outdoor learning space through community working day	Start: Review:			Complete

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
Set up a sustainability working group including PTA Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change including SLT, site	Start: Review:			Planning

manager, teachers, and PTA. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead'.				
Develop a communications strategy that shares sustainability goals more widely Develop a communications strategy to share the great work you are doing with the community, e.g. photo diary of plants grown in gardening club or pond, wildflower or no-mow zones. Communicate your sustainability efforts and success via your newsletters, website, local press and social media channels and get your wider community involved.	Start: Review:		Newsletters to parents as a first step	Planning
Provide CPD opportunities for staff on sustainability Investigate appropriate CPD opportunities for staff	Start: Review:			In progress
Staff to attend local sustainability networks & events 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's webinar schedule in your CPD offer plus events from UK Schools Sustainability Network and other offers local to your school. events e.g. upcoming Cumbria sustainability conferences (4 th and 5 th June 2025)	Start: Review:			In progress

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Complete a curriculum audit & incorporate sustainability Explore CDEC Climate Curriculum and Teach the Future resources.	Start: Review:			Planning

GREEN SKILLS AND CAREERS				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Access the Climate Ambassadors scheme	Start: Review:			Planning

Connect with Climate Ambassadors in your region and invite them to do a school assembly on a topic of interest to your school.				
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