



Willow Wood Community Primary School Climate Action Plan

Implementation Timeline: 2025–2026 Academic Year

Autumn Term (Sept–Dec 2025)

Action	Timescale	Lead	Success Criteria
Create a School Eco Committee	Sept	SLT & Pupils Eco-committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recruit reps from each year group. -Hold regular meetings and focus on specific actions each time. -Reps supported to feedback decisions and actions to classmates and teachers. -Run campaigns in school related to recycling, switching off lights and devices on standby, reducing water usage and wastage etc. -Create posters etc. and school-based competitions for various issues. -Create links to the Carbon Team at Sunderland Council. -Collate evidence and apply for the carbon schools award. - Audit and Reduce Single-Use Plastics e.g. reducing plastic cutlery, straws, cups etc. and provide all children with refillable water bottles, eliminating crackers at Christmas lunch etc.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Eco-committee to take the lead on ensuring school is free of litter etc. -Investigate purchasing real-time energy monitoring equipment. -Eco-committee assesses risks and implements sustainability policies and projects. -Regular meetings are held to track progress and adjust strategies as needed. -Eco-committee identifies projects to participate in and collects and submits evidence as required. -School to sign up to Education Nature Park programs. -Eco-committee gathers pupils views about how they want their learning environments to look and be further developed. -Create a sustainability pledge for the school where children and staff commit to eco-friendly actions e.g. reducing waste, conserving energy and using sustainable transport.
Organise a Walk to School Week	Nov	PE Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Link to Healthy Schools award. -PE leader to organize a walk to school week in the spring term. -Children to complete a daily travel tracker with outcomes collated by the PE leader. -Ensure the children understand the impact on the planet on themselves if they walk to school. -Data from the Travel Tracker is analyzed. -Publicize on Facebook the positive messages, data and impact of walking to school.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Install further bike racks to encourage children riding or scooting to school. -Organize road safety lessons for as many year groups as possible. -Organize Bikeability sessions in Years 5 and 6 for safe riding to school. -Work with local counsellors to install metal barriers along the zig zag road markings to ensure safe crossing areas.
Deliver Some Lessons Outside	Ongoing	Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use garden & shaded areas around school for outdoor learning. -Teachers to audit the curriculum to increase opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. -Encourage after school club sessions to be held outdoors. -Forest school lessons for all year groups. -EYFS children incorporate outdoor learning as part of their specific and continuous provision offer. -Recognize that leaning outdoors reduces the need for heating and lighting and is better health wise. -Encourage children's learning in their free time outdoors through the use of sports equipment, playhouses, scientific areas and reading areas. -EYFS work with Nature Grant leaders and Together for Children EYFS lead to develop knowledge of learning in the outdoors and developing the outdoor areas. -Use the outdoors to provide hands-on experiences with nature. -Use the forest school area to conduct nature walks.



<p>Provide Staff CPD on Sustainability</p>	<p>Dec</p>	<p>SLT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use UCL's free CPD resources. -Work with Sunderland Council Carbon Team. -Access training available. -Work with staff in the office to ensure where possible buses booked for visits are not too large and therefore do not waste fuel by having a large number of spare seats. -Where possible, train staff to combine visits to ensure large buses are full. -Staff and children participate in live sustainability workshops linking live to the Amazon, the North Pole etc to understand how climate change is affecting them. -As part of careers day, introduce children to the idea of careers in sustainability. -Staff to incorporate sustainability lessons throughout the curriculum
<p>Complete a building energy audit.</p>	<p>Sept</p>	<p>Caretaker and council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Maintenance of key system throughout the building is completed to ensure efficiency. -Actions raised by the council are addressed to ensure efficiency is maximized. -Areas of inefficiency are identified and plans made for improvement. -Work with council to maintain LED lighting. -Reduce energy expenditure by using lighting APP to make sure lights are only on when required. -Monitor energy usage via council services and budget monitoring termly. -Energy efficiency certificate received from the council and displayed.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure all motion sensors are clear of obstruction so that they work effectively. -Remind all staff members to turn off their classroom lights when their rooms are not in use. -Keep blinds up to ma -Ensure all fans, air-conditioning etc. are turned off when rooms are not in use. -Create a plan to upgrade electrical appliances as they come to the end of their life or consume too much electricity e.g. laptops and iPads etc. -Seek ways to recycle electricals which are coming to the end of their useable school life e.g. community computer recycling schemes.
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Spring Term (Jan–April 2026)

Action	Timescale	Lead	Success Criteria
Create a heatwave health and safety assessment.	April	SLT and Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify the risks associated with heat in and around the building and identify any mitigating factors. -Install shaded areas around school – overhang, shaded reading area with canopy, increased hydration stations, installing and maintaining blinds on all windows, servicing ventilation and air-conditioning systems around school and water dispensers. -If it is too hot outdoors, children to stay inside. -Adjusting timetables to ensure children are not outside for a prolonged period of time especially at the hottest part of the day.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If children are suffering from heatstroke medical attention to be sought. -Energy efficient film on the windows ensures the heat of the sun is refracted back keeping the rooms cooler.
Host a Sustainability Assembly	March	SLT & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Include assembly themes on carbon footprint and sustainability. -Ensure children understand their responsibility to be good citizens in order to save the planet. -Use First News Assemblies to share messages about sustainability and natural disasters linked to climate change to reinforce messages. -Incorporate books with key messages about protecting the planet etc. in assemblies. -Celebrate the progress we have made as a school in assemblies.
Develop a Water Conservation Strategy including establishing a school pond	April	Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Include leak checks & dual flush toilets -Business manager monitors water usage via council meter readings and bills - Environmental Sustainability: Collecting rainwater reduces reliance on mains water and helps conserve resources, supporting eco-friendly initiatives. -Cost savings – use harvested rainwater for tasks like watering the garden or cleaning outdoor areas to reduce water bills. -Children understand that rainwater is free of chemicals. -Water butts provide a hands-on way to teach pupils about the water cycle, sustainability, and climate change.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Children understand that collecting rainwater can help manage surface water runoff, reducing the risk of minor flooding around school grounds. -School pond establishes an essential habitat for wildlife. -Children use the pond area for learning and understand the aquatic ecosystem it creates. -The pond is maintained and remains a thriving habitat.
Start a Gardening Club	April	TA or Parent Volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Weekly gardening club hosted by J Bell and C Nicholson -Children taught about planting, crop rotation and seasonality. -Link to curriculum -Children grow their own fruits and vegetables to use in their work, play and to eat. -School cook incorporates food grown by the children in the kitchen. -Children use their food in their learning. -Children are taught about sustainability. -Children learn that growing their own food promotes healthy eating. -Create herb gardens around school to provide resources for play and to add to food (reducing the need to purchase dried herbs)

Summer Term (May–July 2026)

Action	Timescale	Lead	Success Criteria
Fit Solar Film on Windows	June	Site Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Quotes sought and received. -Film is fitted to all windows and doors. -Heating in classrooms and around school can be lowered.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Energy savings are seen in the budget. - Improved classroom comfort.
Plant Trees for Shade, food etc	July	SLT & Caretaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Work with the Woodland Trust to ensure trees planted are from a sustainable source. -Choose low-maintenance species -Plant areas that provide shelter, food for animals and wildlife, shaded areas etc. -Ensure regular checks are made on the health of the trees and prune as necessary. -Air quality will be improved as pollutants are filtered. -There will be an increase in the number and species of wildlife around the school site. -Children enjoy more inviting learning spaces outside of the classroom. -Children understand that the trees off-set the school's emissions. -The school site is enhanced and improves well-being. -Incorporate insect hotels to create natural habitats for insects and promote biodiversity.

Long-Term Projects (2026–2027)

Action	Timescale	Lead	Success Criteria
Install Solar Panels	Summer -Autumn 2026	SLT & Governors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -School made aware of funding opportunities for Solar Panel installation in order to make budgetary savings on energy costs. -Headteacher enquires re feasibility of installation of Solar Panels given the structure of the roof and the lightening protection system installed.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Work with the council to complete a structural survey. -Work with installation team and energy gurus to ensure safe installation and accurate understanding of how the system works. -School sees savings in energy costs.
Implement Sustainable Uniform Policy	Autumn 2026	Business Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Non-branded items are allowed. -School includes second-hand sales to support parents -School provides free items of secondhand uniform where possible. -School invites parents to exchange and hand in to school used uniforms to share. -Parents can come to the office to request uniform and this will be provided where available. -School provides and distributes reusable water bottles to discourage single-use plastics. -Children and staff promote healthier drinking habits. -Plastic waste is reduced. -Staff lead workshops for parents to teach them how to repair uniforms and re-hem trousers etc. to reduce waste and environmental impact.
Join Community Initiatives	Ongoing	SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Advertise local councillors litter picking events and efforts to look after the environment to encourage others to join in. -Allocate resources via Woodland Trust etc. to encourage tree planting in the local area. -Attend local council events to understand the risks posed in the local area e.g. fly tipping etc and understand how we can play a part in looking after our locality.