

Sustainability - Climate Action Plan



September 2025

Signed:

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Proposed Review Date: September 2026

Farington Moss St. Paul's Climate action plan 2025

At Farington Moss St. Paul's, our Climate Action Plan is rooted in our Christian vision: "Thrive in the Gift of Life." This guiding principle inspires us to care deeply for God's creation and to act responsibly for the well-being of future generations. To thrive means more than just survive—it calls us to flourish spiritually, environmentally, and communally. Through this plan, we commit to sustainable practices, environmental stewardship, and nurturing a culture of hope and resilience, ensuring that every member of our school and wider community can truly thrive in the Gift of Life.

What is Climate Change?

The dictionary definition is:

A change in global or regional climate patterns, in particular a change apparent from the mid to late 20th century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels.

There are many factors that can make the Earth warmer and colder including:

- Greenhouse gases caused by human activity,
- Deforestation, where more than half of the world's surface has been ploughed and paved,
- Ozone layer trapping heat closer to the Earth's surface
- Different types of air pollution which have different effects on the atmosphere.

The challenge of climate change is formidable. For children and young people to meet it with determination, and not with despair, we offer them not just truth, but also hope. Learners need to know the truth about climate change - through knowledge-rich education. They must also be given the hope that they can be agents of change, through hands-on activity and, as they progress, through guidance and programmes allowing them to pursue a green career pathway in their chosen field (DFE 2023).

What can we do?

The DFE has called on all education sectors to create a sustainability climate action plan to show how we, as a school community, can support national and international initiatives which are aimed at protecting the world through direct climate action. As a school, we have an important role to play in this, particularly reducing our environmental footprint to work towards net zero and giving all children, young people and adults the knowledge and skills to thrive in the green economy and to help restore nature.

Through our sustainability climate action plan, we will engage directly with children and young people who are passionate about the natural world, want to do their best to protect it and can influence their wider communities.

Through their learned and lived experiences from early years to Year 6, our children will develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the importance of nature, sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change and to translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.

Using the four areas identified in the DFE's Sustainability and climate change strategy, our sustainability and climate action plan will focus on:

1. Decarbonisation e.g. taking action to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient.
2. Adaptation and Resilience e.g. taking action to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating.
3. Biodiversity e.g. engaging with National Education Nature Park
4. Climate Education and Green Careers e.g. knowledge rich comprehensive teaching about climate change.

Creating an environment from an early age where we can connect to nature is essential for self-enforcement in protecting and valuing it.

Our children will:

- Spend time in nature and learn more about it
- Become actively involved in the improvement of their local environment
- know that regular contact with green spaces can have a beneficial impact on their physical and mental health.

Climate Action Plan Goals

Goal	Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources	Success criteria
Decarbonisation	Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by changing all the light bulbs to LED bulbs in each school building.	Undertake audit of the current situation and develop options to replace lightbulbs Purchase LED lights and replace existing lightbulbs Train staff/pupils to use the new lights only when necessary Eco-warriors to record light use around the building and highlight areas being misused	Spring/summer 2026	Staff: HT, Site Supervisor (SS), Sustainability Lead (SL), Eco-Warriors (EW) Cost: tbc	Energy rating established - Reduction in energy consumption after LED installation - Plan developed for further energy efficiency improvements
Decarbonisation	Implement sustainable	Review current suppliers for sustainability credentials	Summer 2026	Staff: NJ, HT, SL Supplier information and evaluation tools	Procurement policy updated to include sustainability criteria

	procurement practises	Prioritise purchasing from local and eco-friendly suppliers Reduce use of single-use plastics and unnecessary packaging		- Budget for sustainable products	Increased proportion of sustainable purchases. Reduction in single-use plastics.
Biodiversity	Enhance biodiversity and use of green space	Create wildflower areas and habitats for pollinators Introduce bee apiaries	Spring/summer 2026	Staff: SL, HT, NJ, EW, SS, Etan Demir (Bee enthusiast), The Bee Centre (Chorley) Fencing, Bee suits and equipment. Apiaries provided Native seeds/plants - Gardening tools - Educational signage	Increased biodiversity recorded. Positive pupil engagement with outdoor learning spaces.
Resilience and adaptation	Promote water conservation and management	Install water-saving devices if feasible Use rainwater harvesting for garden irrigation	Summer 2026	Staff: SL, HT, NJ, EW, SS Water saving technology - Rainwater collection	Reduced water consumption. Increased pupil awareness of water issues.

		Educate pupils on water conservation Eco-warriors monitor water usage over time		systems - Educational materials	Sustainable irrigation practises in place
Resilience and adaptation	Reduce waste through composting	Install a composting area on the car park near the field gate	Autumn 2025	Staff: SF, HT, EW	A reduction in our general waste.
Climate education and green careers	Empower pupils to lead climate action	Establish a pupil eco committee or green team Provide training and resources for pupil-led projects Involve pupils in decision making about sustainability initiatives	Summer 2026/ongoing	Staff: NJ, EW, SL, Sustainability Governor (SG) Meeting space and times Training materials	Active eco-committee with regular meetings. Successful pupil-led sustainability projects. Increased pupil voice in school sustainability decisions
Climate education and green careers	Embed climate education across all key stages	Integrate climate change topics into science, geography, and PSHE lessons - Use outdoor learning/Forest School spaces for environmental education	Summer 2026/ongoing	Staff: Teachers, Forest School leaders, HT, SS, Parents	Climate change topics evident in lesson plans. Increased pupil

		Earth Day - 22 nd April 2026		Curriculum planning time - Access to climate education resources	understanding measured through assessments. Positive pupil engagement in projects
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