Principal: Robert McGreal
Sustainability Lead: Ben McLoughlin

Climate Action Plan (Outwood Academy Bydales)
Sustainable Outwood Schools (SOS)

We are committed to sustainable development (meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs) as a guiding principle within the work of the Trust. Concern for the environment is an integral and fundamental part of this commitment. Our aim is to reduce the impact on the environment from our operations. Through our work with children we are in a position to promote the wider sustainability agenda. We will assess the environmental impacts of our operations and set objectives and targets in order to improve our environmental performance. We will regularly review these targets.

We will:

- promote responsibility for the environment within the organisation and communicate and implement this at all levels with both staff and children;
- reduce the use of energy, water and other resources;
- minimise waste by thorough consideration of the three Rs: Reduce, Re-use and Recycle;
- comply with all relevant environmental legislation/regulation;
- ensure that our policies and services are developed in a way that is complementary to this;
- identify and provide appropriate training, advice and information for staff and encourage them to develop new ideas and initiatives;
- provide appropriate resources to meet the commitments; and
- promote and encourage involvement in local environmental initiatives/schemes.
- Ensure this plan is available to all staff on our intranet site, website, and has been drawn to their attention.

1. Climate Action Plan Targets

Target 1: Waste Management

- Reduce waste created, and where possible reuse and recycle before responsible disposal of surplus materials;
- Use recycled and recyclable materials wherever possible and appropriate;
- Ensure continued roll out of electronic records, document management systems and online service initiatives to reduce the need for paper.

Target 2: Curriculum

- Ensure that sustainability and responsible environmental decisions are explicitly taught within the curriculum at all key stages;
- Reward and award positive sustainability behaviours, linked to Pledges and responsible environmental actions.

Target 3: Water Management

- Manage and reduce water consumption.

Target 4: Energy Use

- Reduce our carbon footprint through prudent use of fossil fuels (through energy conservation, offsetting, management, and efficiency within buildings) and to switch to low-carbon/renewable fuel alternatives where possible.

Target 5: Transport

- Seek to reduce single-occupancy vehicle use to our sites;
- implement measures to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport as principal modes of commuting and business travel.

Target 6: Policy

- Integrate principles of environmental sustainability within all Trust policies and practices, specifically to those relating to procurement of goods and services.

Target 7: Biodiversity

- Protect natural habitats and encourage local wildlife and biological diversity of the Trust's managed land.

Target 8: Trust Estate

- Refurbish and develop the Trust estate in a manner that avoids negative environmental impacts and enhances the local environment;
- recognise the signs of energy wastage and take steps to rectify them.
- Avoid or limit wherever practical the use of environmentally-damaging substances, materials and processes.

2. Key actions

Action 1: Climate Action Plan (CAP)

The Action Plan will be developed using the ideas from school leads. We will:

- Regularly update the CAP to resolve problems and increase the ability to meet our targets. It will include: the necessary tasks, the people responsible and time frame for actions in order to achieve our goals/targets
- Ensure targets are SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely)

Action 2: Monitor and Evaluate

The Sustainability Lead will monitor whether the school community are successfully achieving the targets set out in our Climate Action Plan. They will:

- Monitor our energy consumption data
- Regularly update and display what has been achieved for the whole school to see
- Evaluate the success of our activities and update our CAP as required.

Action 3: Curriculum

Besides increasing the status of the programme, we will link climate change activities to the curriculum to ensure that environmental sustainability is truly integrated within the school community. We will:

- Integrate the programme into the curriculum through specific classes (Geography, Science, PD&G) and/or innovative teaching
- Ensure children throughout the school gain an understanding of how real life environmental and social issues are dealt with in a real life setting

Action 4: Inform and Involve

Our actions will not just be confined to school settings: for example, we will encourage children to take home ideas to put into practice. We will:

- Ensure all members of the school community are informed and involved in the work within this plan.
- Manage information provision and public relations to tell about our work, including: school assemblies, school displays, newsletters and websites, local and national press, radio and television, social media etc.
- Recognise and reward environmentally responsible actions through our reward schemes, Pledges and Student Voice.
- Engage in Global Action Days.

Progress on implementing all areas of the Environmental and Sustainability Policy will be reviewed annually as a minimum.

Climate Action Plan (Outwood Academy Bydales)

Action	Resources & Funding	Person/People Responsible	Timeframe	Completion of Action
Establishing the baseline				
Understand our school's carbon footprint Assessing our current climate footprint will allow a bench mark to be set and progress to be measurable. It could include understanding the carbon footprint of suppliers, travel and energy use.	Count your carbon - Eco schools Get involved | Climate Ambassadors Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools	Sustainability lead - to then share with all staff.	4 months	Completed.
Understand our school's energy efficiency by conducting a review of energy use. Assessing energy efficiency will allow any unnecessary usage to be identified, and understand where improvements in efficiency can be made.	Energy Efficiency: guidance for the school estate	Sustainability lead/Site Management	6 month	
Waste, consumption, food & recycling				
Re-use single sided paper. Reduce the amount of paper used and reduce overall waste.		All Staff and Students	1 month	Ongoing
Set photocopiers to print double sided Reduce the amount of paper used .		All Staff	1 month	Completed
Follow me printing to reduce unwanted printing Reduce the amount of paper used.		All Staff	1 month	Completed
Where possible share information electronically and		All Staff	Ongoing	Ongoing

avoid printing. Reduce the amount of paper and energy used, and reduce overall waste.				
Provide recycling facilities. Ensure any waste generated is disposed of as sustainably as possible.		Sustainability lead/Site Management	4 months	
Remove single use plastic from the restaurant/canteen. Reduces the main cause of plastic consumption in school, therefore reducing overall waste.	How To Reduce Plastic at the School Canteen - Plastic Free July	Sustainability lead / Sustainability Action Group / Robertson FM	4 months	
Introduce plant power or meat free days in the school canteen. Work in collaboration with "Meat free Monday's" to reduce the carbon footprint of school dinners.	Meat free Mondays guide for educators	Sustainability lead - in collaboration with Robertson FM	4 months	Completed
Explore rainwater collection opportunities for plants on site. Potentially cost saving, as well as reducing overall water consumption.		Sustainability lead/Site Management	6 months	
Turn off any tap left running and report defective or leaking taps to site management. Potentially cost saving, as well as reducing overall water consumption.		All staff and students	Ongoing	Ongoing
Encourage all students to use refillable drinking bottles and refill stations. Reduces the main cause of plastic consumption in school, therefore reducing overall waste, as well as being cost saving for students.		All Staff	Ongoing	Ongoing

Offer second hand uniform/prom outfits to students. Reduces an individual's carbon footprint. Raises awareness of the importance of reusing and recycling.	Trutex - preloved website Uniform swap events	Sustainability Lead / Other relevant Staff	12 months	
Plastic free schools project. Project to help reduce the amount of plastic in school, to be then awarded plastic free status.	Plastic free schools	Sustainability Lead	12 months	Sign up completed for 2026/27
Decarbonisation				
Encourage students and staff to switch off lights, PCs and whiteboards/smartboards before leaving rooms. Energy and cost saving.	Climate Action Decarbonisation Plan Guide. Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	Sustainability Lead	Ongoing	Ongoing
Auto shut-down all PCs at the end of each day as early as possible. Energy and cost saving.		IT manager	1 month	
Introduce LED lighting, including motion sensors. Energy and cost saving.		Site Management	Ongoing	Ongoing
Assess buildings for areas of heat loss. This will identify areas of the building which need improved insulation to reduce heat loss, therefore making the heating system more efficient.	Energy Saving Trust	Site Management	6 months	
Renewable energy use. Introduce non fossil fuel energy solutions in new build and refurbishment projects where possible.	A guide to energy efficiency in the workplace - Energy Saving Trust	Site Management / Business Manager	Ongoing	
Air Quality				

Create a clean air action plan. Improving air quality improves health.	The Clean Air for Schools Framework	Sustainability Lead	6 months	
Active and sustainable travel				
Provide facilities for staff and students to cycle to work. Cycle to work scheme, training, bikesheds.	Staff Cycle to Work Scheme - Outwood Plus Cycle Training for Everyone - Deliver Safer Training | Bikeability	Site Management	1 month	Completed
Explore electric car charging points for schools. Incentive for staff to buy electric vehicles if the vehicle range is a potential barrier.		Sustainability lead / Site Management	6 months	
Provide/request online meeting facilities to reduce the need to travel to meetings within the Trust. Reduce fuel consumption and therefore the carbon footprint of meetings/events.	GMeet	Trust Leadership	Ongoing	Ongoing
Actively search for more sustainable ways for student travel to take place (such as to sporting fixtures/other trips). This could include requesting electric buses where available, or travel by train where possible.		Trip Leaders / Business Manager	Ongoing	Ongoing
Policy				
Check environmental standards of all suppliers and contractors. To ensure our choice of supplies can help to reduce		Sustainability Lead	3 months	

the climate footprint of the school.				
Endeavour to purchase stationery that is recycled or from sustainably managed sources where possible. To ensure the choices we make are as sustainable as possible.		Business Manager / HoD's	3 months	
Ensure tea and coffee provided/used by the trust is fair-trade. To ensure the choices we make are as sustainable as possible.		All Staff	1 month	
Biodiversity				
Plant trees across the site. This will enhance biodiversity and help to offset some of the carbon we produce.	Education Nature Park Trees for Schools | Trees for Cities	Sustainability Action Group / Site Management	6 months	Ongoing
Create wildflower/garden areas that are left uncut and provide a natural habitat to encourage wildlife. This will enhance biodiversity, encourage sustainability, and raise awareness of the importance of sustaining small habitats. These could also be used by Biology/Geography subjects as a teaching resource.	Seven simple ways to create a wildlife-friendly garden | Natural History Museum (nhm.ac.uk) How to make your garden wilder | Rewilding Britain	Sustainability Action Group / Site Management	12 months	
Climate education and green careers				
Ensure assembly and curriculum covers climate change, green careers and sustainability topics. This is important for raising awareness.		Sustainability Lead / Deep Experience Lead / PD Lead / Careers Lead	3 months	Ongoing

Empower Student Voice to develop their own climate change initiatives This is important for raising awareness and allowing students to be involved with the CAP.	Case studies | Royal Society Partnership Grants | Royal Society	Sustainability Action Group / Student Voice / Sustainability Lead	6 months	
Climate change and sustainability covered within the Geography curriculum. This is important for raising awareness and ensuring all students are aware of the causes of climate change in detail, and understanding how we can reduce the impacts.		Humanities Department / Sustainability Lead	1 month	Completed
Engagement and involvement with "The great big green week" and other climate change/sustainability based student enrichment. This is important for raising awareness and allowing students to be involved with the CAP.	The Great Big Green Week	Sustainability Lead	12 months	
Resilience and adaptation				
Assess your school's risk and vulnerability to climate change. Assess the extent to which the changing climate will impact the school building, the staff and the students in the future.	Local Climate Adaptation Tool (lcat.uk)	Sustainability Lead	12 months	
Create a climate action plan. Aim: To support the UK Government target of net zero.	Adaptation Scotland :: The Framework	Sustainability Lead	1 month	Completed
Establish plans for rapid recovery after climate events. Emergency plans are in place.	Emergency Plan and Business Continuity	Trust Leaders	1 month	Completed

Have a plan in place for extreme weather. Risk assessments are in place.	Snow risk assessment Heatwave risk assessment Uniform Policy in heat	School Leadership	1 month	Completed
Ensure there are areas of shade available in external areas. Help to reduce heat stress during extreme temperatures.	https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/	Sustainability Lead / Site Management	1 month	Completed