



St George's CE First School and Nursery
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Climate Action Plan

St George's CE First School & Nursery

3 year plan Autumn 2025 – 2028

GET STARTED				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Autumn term 2025</p> <p>Review termly</p>	<p>Claire Martin</p>	<p>Signed up on 19.9.25</p>	
<p>Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon★</p> <p>This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting.</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Becky Ford</p> <p>David Harris</p> <p>Claire Martin</p> <p>Victoria Dawes</p>	<p>Need information on energy suppliers.</p>	
<p>Sign up to the Sustainability Support for Education</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Autumn term 2025</p> <p>Review: termly</p>	<p>Claire Martin</p>		

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
<p>Take part in a switch off campaign</p> <p>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).</p>	<p>Start: Autumn 2025 Review: Autumn 2026</p>		Will be doing this in November 2025	
<p>Monitor energy use on a regular basis through your energy platform</p> <p>This online energy-monitoring platform enables schools to visualise their energy usage.</p>	TBC	Central Team	Central team to look into this	
<p>Switch to a renewable energy supplier</p> <p>Obtain quotes for renewable energy tariffs when your current energy contract finishes. Explore Good Energy , Ecotricity and Green Energy UK which are suppliers that generate their own renewable energy and/or buy energy directly from renewable energy generators.</p>	TBC	Central Team		
<p>Instruct all staff to follow heating efficiency practices eg turn heating down vs opening windows</p> <p>Give staff clear instructions on how to manage heating in their classrooms, e.g. ensure all teachers know where TRVs are or how to control their classroom thermostat, when to open windows and how to be proactive rather than reactive to overheating issues.</p>	<p>Start: Autumn 2025 Review: Summer 2026</p>	<p>All Staff</p> <p>Vision Crew to support in making posters</p>	Visual prompts throughout the school to remind staff.	

<p>Incentivise students to address energy usage eg Energy Champions initiative</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Start: Autumn 2025 Review: Termly</p>	<p>Teachers in the classroom, sustainability lead</p>	<p>First project for school council/Vision Crew will be to address energy useage across the school.</p>	
<p>Power down strategy for appliances (fridges and freezers over holidays)</p> <p>Fridges and freezers are often overlooked. Check every fridge, including the staffroom, and turn them all off over holiday periods. Condense frozen food down to only 1 freezer, particularly over long breaks, to reduce base load during unoccupied periods, and turn any other freezers off.</p>	<p>Start: October half term. Review: January 2026</p>	<p>Site Manager</p>		
<p>Access support from your local Net Zero Hub</p> <p>Net Zero Hubs work with Local Enterprise Partnerships. Local Authorities and community organisations to improve capacity and capability on the journey to reaching net zero. Their aim is to help develop and finance decarbonisation and energy projects, supporting partners to decarbonise their respective regions.</p> <p>Email: ucheckwu.ugwu@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>	<p>Central Team</p>		

ENERGY – BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Install a smart meter</p> <p>Contact your energy/ water supplier to get a smart meter installed. This is an important first step to get</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Site Manager/ Central Team</p>		

data to track consumption, and needed before you can sign up to energy usage platforms e.g. Energy Sparks				
Install TRVs on radiators Install thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs). These will maintain the room at a set temperature and allow local control of heating. These can be easily retrofitted on existing radiators.	Start: Review:	Central Team		
Continue the installation of LED lighting Replace any remaining older lighting fixtures with LEDs and install motion sensors in any high traffic areas. The DfE suggests LED installation can reduce energy consumption from lighting by over 84%.	Start: Review:	Central Team		

PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Consider sustainability as part of your criteria for procurement This approach involves purchasing products that were designed and produced ethically and sustainably, made from materials that can be recycled or managed sustainably as waste. This action can follow the development of a sustainable procurement policy.	TBC	Central team SGFS Staff		
Factor in energy efficiency when buying new equipment such as ovens, fridges, kettles etc. (using efficiency ratings to guide purchases) Ensure that cost is balanced against the efficiency rating of electrical appliances to compensate upfront cost with running cost and longevity, e.g. choosing only appliances that are the highest efficiency rating for that product.	Start: Review:	School staff		

<p>Switch to recycled or sustainably sourced paper</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>	<p>School Staff</p>		
<p>Reuse school uniform</p> <p>Set a target of reusing a specific number of uniform items each year</p>	<p>Autumn 2025: Review Autumn 2026</p>		<p>This is already established and our uniform is given to a local charity. We also do not insist on logos, allowing the uniform to be recycled to children not at our school.</p>	

FOOD				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Increase meat-free offer on multiple days or number of meat-free options</p> <p>Increase your vegan and vegetarian offers, whether this includes more hot meal options or addressing your sandwich or jacket potato offerings to begin to shift away from meat fillings.</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Catering Team</p>		
<p>Arrange a menu consultation through external organisation, e.g. ProVeg</p> <p>Consider where and how plant-based meals are displayed on menus to reduce bias against these options, e.g. by making the vegetarian offer the default or first in the list, and the meat-option as the alternative. Send off your menu to ProVeg for a menu consultation and advice on improving the planet friendly options.</p>	<p>TBC</p>	<p>Catering Team</p>		

<p>Improve composting and food waste facilities (onsite)</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Start: Summer 2025 Review: Termly</p>	<p>Site manager and lunch time supervisors</p>	<p>Separate bins now set up throughout the school and clearly labelled.</p>	
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TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Provide cycle proficiency lessons in school e.g. Bikeability</p> <p>Host cycling proficiency lessons in your school grounds, such as Bikeability. Your local authority should be able to support you to get signed up.</p>	<p>TBC</p>		<p>Applied for a grant for bikes in the school</p>	
<p>Provide bicycle shelters</p> <p>Encourage staff and students to bike or scoot to school with somewhere secure and dry to store their gear.</p>	<p>TBC</p>		<p>Applied for a grant for bike shelters in the school</p>	
<p>Promote walking/cycling/public transport to school/ Park & Stride</p> <p>Communicate to the wider school community the benefits of active travel.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>		<p>To do in newsletters</p>	

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Label bins clearly</p> <p>Implement clear signage on bins to support with behaviour change. You can work with your students to design signage for these, or Wastebusters have signs and resources designed for primary age and you can access food waste bin labels on Guardians of Grub.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>	<p>Eco Club & Lisa Browning</p>	<p>Lisa to set up Eco Club. Meet half termly.</p>	
<p>Ensure recycling bins are in all key areas e.g. classrooms, corridors, playgrounds, cafeteria and staffroom.</p> <p>Ensure that there are bins in all relevant areas of the school to make choosing to recycle easy. Consider colour differences to highlight general vs recycling clearly.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>	<p>Eco Club and Lisa Browning</p>		
<p>Education around recycling as part of assemblies or other whole school opportunities</p> <p>Deliver assembly/ information to students regarding what is to be put in each bin. Young Climate Warriors provide slides/ assemblies</p> <p>Do a waste audit and encourage students to take part in the whole process. Wastebusters have a helpful step-by-step guide for this.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Autumn 2025</p> <p>Review:</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Claire Martin</p>		
<p>Continue to consider how to reduce the impact of 'dress up' days</p> <p>Share ideas and celebrate low cost, reused and innovative costumes; encourage pooling and reusing costumes.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Autumn 2025</p> <p>Review:</p> <p>March 2026</p>		<p>Consider to ask parents to donate costumes to be used every year</p>	
<p>Consider sustainable practices when disposing of E-waste e.g. Air Ambulance</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>	<p>Lisa Browning and Eco Club</p>		

Ensure you are complying with sustainable practices when disposing of E-waste. For example, The Air Ambulance Service can arrange a free collection of surplus IT Equipment, data-wipe it, and then sell it on.				
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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
<p>Adapt planting on site for shade & soil stability to mitigate future climate impact</p> <p>Woodland creation and tree planting within viable locations can provide multiple benefits. Tree species should be carefully selected based upon the location considered. The Woodland Trust can help with this and offers free tree packs for schools.</p>	TBC			
<p>Build sheltered areas on playgrounds for heat resilience</p> <p>Use awnings/shading measures to provide adequate shelter for students on hot days.</p>	TBC	Claire Martin to apply for grant to create large outdoor shaded area for KS2.	<p>Funding from:</p> <p>Veolia Community Grant of between £10,000 and £75,000 are available to constituted not-for-profit organisations, local authorities and Environmental Bodies (EBs) to create or improve buildings or outside spaces for the benefit of the community. Next funding round opens 22 May 2025, closing date 26 June 2025</p> <p>Severn Trent Community Fund About Us Severn Trent Water Severn Trent aim to support local charities and community groups with over £20million in the ten years from 2020. New</p>	

			project funding and core funding is available, Two funding windows; May and November.	
<p>Install heat reflective measures in classrooms (focus on south, east and west facing)</p> <p>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.</p>	TBC	<p>Claire Martin</p> <p>David Harris</p>	<p>Funding from:</p> <p>npower Business Solutions Foundation A fund to help create strong, greener and more sustainable communities. Organisations with a turnover of less than £50K can apply for up to £19,999, and organisations with a turnover of over £50K can apply for up to £100,000</p>	
<p>Ensure staff understand how to cool their rooms through cross ventilation and other context specific measures</p> <p>Communicate to staff how best to cool their rooms through cross ventilating and maximising air flow.</p>	TBC			

WATER				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Install systems to reduce water wastage e.g. controlled flow measures in bathrooms and leak detection (taps)</p> <p>Check your water supplier to see if they do free water audits and installations. At end of life ensure that taps are replaced by push press mechanisms to reduce water wastage.</p> <p>Water efficiency help for businesses in the Midlands – Sustainability West Midlands</p>	TBC			

<p>Implement a water usage policy</p> <p>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.</p>	TBC			
<p>Check water meter for leaks</p> <p>Access a water audit from your water supplier, or use this resource to involve students in carrying out a water audit. Schools of 600 pupils can save up to £5,000 per year through water reduction.</p>	TBC	Site Manager		
<p>Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency through workshops and displays that may be offered by your water provider</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Workshops and visits Education Zone About Us Severn Trent Water</p>	TBC			
<p>Install water butts</p> <p>Capture rainwater to use on plants around school - and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours.</p>	TBC			

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
<p>Enrol with The Nature Park (NENP)★</p> <p>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, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.</p>	<p>Start: Review:</p>			
<p>Establish a gardening/ nature club</p> <p>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.</p>	TBC	<p>Consider incorporating into Eco Club</p> <p>Lisa Browning</p> <p>Tina McLean</p>	<p>Explore outdoor learning grants – a great resource for this is on the Finding funding! Education Nature Park. You can receive £500 worth of outdoor equipment from a catalogue of over 100 items, including raised bed planters, loose parts kits, waterproof clothing, gardening kits, log seats, ground cover kits, and more. This can be used for your plan on a raised area for shrubs. Also try Groundwork</p>	
<p>Use eco friendly cleaning products</p> <p>Once current cleaning products are finished, replace any cleaning products with eco-friendly versions. This may need to be an ongoing conversation with your cleaning company.</p>	TBC	David Harris		
<p>Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. planting pollinator-friendly plants, putting up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels'</p> <p>Develop your outdoor spaces (forest school or planting areas) to enhance biodiversity.</p>	<p>Start: Autumn 2025 Review: December 2025</p>	<p>David Harris</p> <p>Claire Martin</p> <p>Lisa Browning</p>	<p>This is underway as part of Forest School.</p> <p>Pond and wild flower area.</p>	

Apply for free wildflower seeds to use on the school grounds Promoting Biodiversity & Conservation for Bees - Biffa				
<p>Create outdoor learning spaces with seating, shade and suitable accessibility</p> <p>Identify areas in your school grounds which could accommodate outdoor learning, ideally spaces with natural shade, space for seating and suitable access. Consider sourcing seating or other resources from recycle or swap sites.</p>	<p>Start:</p> <p>Review:</p>			
<p>Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys</p> <p>Conduct wildlife surveys and habitat mapping using the NENP resources or take part in activities such as the Big Birdwatch with the RSPB.</p>	TBC		Hayley Evans, geography lead to incorporate into themed days of the curriculum.	

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
<p>Set up an eco-club for pupils to take leadership on issues</p> <p>Establish a student Eco Club. Consider inclusivity and longevity of projects so that as many students as possible can take part throughout their time at school.</p> <p>Eco Schools</p>	Autumn 2025	Lisa Browning		

<p>Set up a sustainability working group including PTA</p> <p>Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change including SLT, site manager, teachers, and PTA. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead'.</p>	TBC	Claire Martin		
<p>Include a commitment to sustainability in school values statement including declaration of Net Zero aspirations</p> <p>Include a commitment to sustainability in your school values and public communications, e.g. declaring a climate emergency and intention of going Net Zero.</p>	Autumn 2025	Claire Martin Rosie Webb	Claire and Rosie to design new sustainability page on website to include photos, statement and action plan.	
<p>Add sustainability goals/ projects/ successes to school website</p> <p>Celebrate your achievements and engage your community in your climate action plans by adding a dedicated sustainability page to your school website. You can also include links to Let's Go Zero and other organisations you are engaging with. Update it with photos or student-written blogs if you can.</p>	Summer 2026	Claire Martin Rosie Webb		
<p>Set up a sustainability award for students or classes</p> <p>Create an Eco Award as part of the Eco Club's work, either as an end-of-year celebration or a weekly/ half termly award, e.g. for the class who do the most recycling/ turn off lights and screens most consistently.</p>	TBC	Lisa Browning Eco Club		
<p>Staff to attend local sustainability networks & events</p> <p>Include sustainability networks and events in your staff CPD offer and encourage and support staff to</p>	Start: Review:			

attend. You can include the Let's Go Zero's webinar schedule in your CPD offer plus events from UKSSN, National Education Nature Park and other offers local to your school.				
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CURRICULUM

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
<p>Complete a curriculum audit & incorporate sustainability</p> <p>Teach the Future have amazing resources on how to link the curriculum to sustainability! MoEE also has very helpful resources on this.</p>	TBC	<p>Claire Martin</p> <p>Hayley Evans</p>		
<p>Create an environment where lessons can be taught outside in all subjects</p> <p>Improve outdoor learning by setting up regular opportunities to learn in nature. You can get support and advice from the Forest School Association, Learning Through Landscapes or the National Education Nature Park.</p>	Autumn 1 2025	<p>Claire Martin</p> <p>Philip Sticklely</p>	Gorcott Hall Outdoor Centre to deliver training to staff in CPD.	
<p>Expand your forest school to all year groups</p> <p>Train members of staff to be accredited Forest School Leaders. Embed opportunities for all students to access Forest School regularly.</p>	TBC	Sharon Murphy		

