



Great Bradfords
Junior School

School Climate Action Plan

2025-2026

'Together we learn; together we grow'

(In line with the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy)

1. Introduction and Rationale

At Great Bradfords Junior School, we recognise our responsibility to reduce our environmental impact, educate future generations about sustainability, and inspire action. Our Climate Action Plan sets out how we are reducing carbon emissions, improving biodiversity, managing resources responsibly, and embedding sustainability into our curriculum and culture. This is a whole-school effort, involving staff, pupils, families, and the wider community.

2. Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a leading environmentally responsible school where pupils are empowered to make a difference. Through education, action, and innovation, we aim to create a more sustainable future and model environmentally sound practices in every area of school life.

3. Key Achievements to Date

- B-rated energy performance certificate (score 41) – outstanding for a 1970s school.
- 38.6% of our energy is currently generated from renewable sources.
- 50kW solar panels installed (2021).
- Complete LED lighting retrofit (2023).
- Roof insulation upgrade (2021).
- 100 trees planted to establish a new school woodland (2020).
- Redeveloped pond (2020); allotment and wetland habitat created (2024).
- Majority of food waste now composted on-site using composter funded by Cllr Bowers-Flint (2023).
- Pupils lead through our **Global Green Team**, promoting eco-initiatives.
- Featured in the *Essex Chronicle* and local council sustainability campaigns.

4. Leadership and Governance

- The Climate Action Plan is overseen by the Headteacher and supported by the school leadership team.
- The **Global Green Team** (pupil-led) plays a central role in planning, campaigning, and promoting sustainability projects.
- The governing body is informed of progress and supports strategic investment in sustainability.
- Links to the wider community are promoted through partnerships and media recognition.

5. Buildings and Energy Use

- **Energy Performance:** Our current **Display Energy Certificate rating is B (score of 41)**, which is exceptional for a building constructed in the 1970s. The **UK average for schools is a D (score 100)**. This means we use **less than half the energy of a typical school of our type and age**.
- **Renewables:** 38.6% of our energy use is from renewable sources, largely thanks to our 50kW solar installation.

Upgrades:

- Roof insulation (2021) and full LED retrofit (2023) completed.
- Next step: **upgrade the school boiler** to a low-carbon heating system in 2025.

6. Waste and Resource Management

- Since 2023, the school has composted the majority of its food waste, using a composter purchased with a local authority grant.
- **Food Waste Campaign:** Led by the Global Green Team to raise awareness and reduce unnecessary waste.
- We promote recycling and reuse across classrooms and shared areas.

7. Biodiversity and Green Spaces

- **Tree Planting:** In 2020, we planted 100 trees which now form a developing woodland.
- **Pond Redevelopment:** Restored in 2020 to support learning and biodiversity.

- **New Wetland and Allotment:** In 2024, we created a wetland habitat and improved our school allotment for growing food and supporting science learning.
- Regular eco-surveys (litter) and pupil involvement in wildlife observation are embedded into the curriculum.

8. Curriculum and Pupil Voice

- Sustainability themes are integrated across science, geography, PSHE, and English.
- Our Global Green Team leads whole-school campaigns, audits, and assemblies.
- Children are taught about the climate crisis and empowered to take meaningful action through class projects and pupil-led initiatives.

9. Transport and Travel

- We promote walking, cycling, and park-and-stride approaches to reduce car travel.
- We have been number one in Essex for most of the 24/25 academic year and have featured in the top 10 across the UK.
- Our school communications regularly share reminders and encourages families to consider sustainable travel, whilst celebrating our successes.

10. Procurement and Catering

- We are taking steps to reduce single-use plastics across school activities and in the canteen.
- Our allotment is used to grow some fresh produce, linking food and climate education.
- Pupils explore the concept of food miles and sustainable sourcing through class-based projects.

Great Bradfords Junior School – Climate Action Plan (2025–2026)

Objective	Strategies and Actions	Success Criteria	Monitoring and Evaluation	Responsibility	Timeline	Resources and Budget
1. Reduce Carbon Emissions and Improve Energy Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace existing boiler with a low-carbon heating system • Increase use of renewable energy sources beyond 40% • Conduct monthly energy usage monitoring • Install a real-time digital energy dashboard for pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boiler replaced by 2025 • Renewable energy exceeds 40% • Dashboard installed and used in lessons • Reduction in overall energy consumption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy meter weekly reviews • Half-termly energy reports to governors • Pupil-led data analysis of dashboard 	Headteacher Site Manager Global Green Team Governors	2025–2026	Approx. £60,000 for boiler replacement (Funded by ECC)
2. Reduce Waste and Improve Resource Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue food waste composting programme • Launch a zero-waste lunch campaign • Conduct pupil-led waste audits • Improve signage and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥90% of food waste composted • Waste reduction evident via audits • Increased correct recycling from baseline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Termly waste audits by Eco Ambassadors • Staff feedback • Evidence in Global Green 	Eco Lead Global Green Team Teachers	2025–2025	£500 for sorting bins and signage £200 campaign materials

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	resources for recycling in all classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained pupil engagement in campaigns 	Team minutes and newsletters			
3. Promote Biodiversity and Outdoor Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and develop pond, wetland and allotment • Incorporate eco-surveys and nature walks into curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased biodiversity (flora/fauna species count) • Regular curriculum use of outdoor areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline and annual species surveys • Evaluation of planning and pupil work • SLT learning walks 	Science and Geography Leads Eco Lead Teaching Staff	2025–2026	£1,000 habitat improvement grants Staff CPD time
4. Embed Sustainability Across the Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map sustainability links across all subjects • Use real-time energy and biodiversity data in lessons • Sustain cross-curricular eco-projects (e.g., persuasive writing, art campaigns) • Hold Climate Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity and progression seen in planning • Pupil-led projects showcased • Progression in pupil understanding • Climate Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum planning scrutiny • Pupil voice surveys • Lesson observations 	Curriculum Leaders SLT Global Green Team	2025–2026	Staff meeting time £500 annual Climate Week budget £300 pupil project materials

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	Week annually with pupil choice-led events	Week established annually				
5. Strengthen Pupil Voice and Leadership in Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Global Green Team with training opportunities • Embed pupil-led eco-presentations and assemblies • Engage pupils in decision-making through surveys and eco-forums • Support pupil representation at local climate events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of pupil participation • Pupil voice reflected in school decisions • Public representation by pupils recognised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance and participation monitoring • Pupil feedback • Headteacher reports to governors 	Pupil Leadersh ip Lead SLT Eco Lead	2025– 2026	£250 for training and visits Free partnerships with local councils
6. Promote Sustainable Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refresh and promote Park & Stride zones • Encourage walk/cycle to school through termly incentives • Create a School Travel Plan with pupil input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in pupils walking/cycling • School Travel Plan approved • Reduction in local traffic complaints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and pupil surveys • Baseline and follow-up travel logs • Feedback 	PE Lead Parent Liaison Local Authority Travel Advisor	2025– 2025	£300 for pupil rewards Support from LA – no cost

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			from road safety team			
7. Promote Sustainable Procurement and Catering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit canteen and classroom use of plastics • Reduce single-use plastics, switching to reusables • Use allotment food in cooking and science lessons • Teach food miles and ethical sourcing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in plastic usage • Evidence of sustainable practice in cookery lessons • Pupil understanding of local vs imported food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering service audit • Lesson observations • Pupil surveys and project outcomes 	Catering Manager Science/DT Leads Eco Lead	2025–2025	£500 for reusable materials Garden and cooking resources
8. Monitor, Review, and Celebrate Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out full school-wide carbon audit • Develop pupil-friendly sustainability dashboard • Submit for Eco-Schools Green Flag Accreditation • Celebrate success via media and school events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit completed with action points • Dashboard used in school displays • Accreditation awarded • Community recognition sustained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal and external audit reports • Governor termly reviews • Pupil/staff feedback 	Headteacher Eco Lead Governors Green Team	2025–2026	£1,000 for audit & dashboard £300 Eco-Schools application and resources