



Chilton Community Primary School

Climate and Sustainability Action Plan



Respect, Believe, Achieve.

2025-2027

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What is Climate Change?

The dictionary definition is: A change in global or regional acclimate patterns, in particular a change apparent from mod to late 20th Century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produce they 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 must 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 important role to play in this, particularly reducing our environmental footprint to work towards net zero and giving all children and adults the knowledge and skills to thrive in the green economy and to help restore nature. Through our climate action plan, we will engage directly with children 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 translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.

The DfE have required schools to set targets in each of the four following areas:



Decarbonisation

**Adaptation and
Resilience**

Biodiversity

**Climate Education and
Green Careers**

In addition, our plan will also consider the following associated needs:

Travel

Air Quality

**Waste and
Recycling**

Climate, Environment and Sustainability Statement

At Chilton Primary School we are committed to developing a sustainable and environmentally responsible school community. Through a range of recent initiatives and improvements we are working to reduce our environmental impact, improve energy efficiency and promote sustainability awareness among pupils and staff. We recognise the important role schools play in protecting the environment and remain committed to embedding sustainable practices across the school.



Recent Achievements:

- Recycling facilities are available throughout the school, with dedicated recycling bins provided in every classroom to encourage responsible waste disposal
- Trees and hedges have been planted across the school site to enhance biodiversity and improve the local environment
- The school maintains an on-site garden to support outdoor learning, wellbeing, and environmental awareness
- LED and Sensor lighting in all rooms and cupboards which turns off when not in use installed in 2023/2024
- Regular litter picks completed, by staff and children
- Introduced food waste collections to reduce waste and improve recycling efforts
- Securely recycle confidential paper waste into new paper products, reducing landfill waste and supporting sustainability initiatives
- Introduced additional recycling bins across the school in line with new Suffolk County Council recycling requirements from June 2026.
- Replaced oil tanks with a new and more efficient heating system installed across the whole school, with improved heating controls and energy-efficient boilers installed 2025/2026.

Future Building, Energy and Grounds Plans:

As part of the school's ongoing commitment to sustainability and estate improvement, and subject to future funding, the following projects are planned:

- Replacement of existing windows with more energy-efficient glazing to improve insulation and reduce energy consumption
- Replacement of internal and external doors to meet current safety regulations while improving heat retention and energy efficiency within the building



Teaching / Learning

Pupils learn about their environment, climate change and the impact of human activity:

As part of the geography curriculum children will understand:

- How the climate is changing and humans' impact on the world around them
- Physical and human geography, including biomes and vegetation belts, land use, economic activity including trade links

As part of the Science curriculum children will understand:

- How materials are best suited for different uses and how they can be recycled
- Plants and life cycles and how changes in the environment can have an adverse effect
- Living things and their habitats - what can humans do to preserve these habitats

As part of the PSHE curriculum children will understand:

- Global citizenship and our responsibility to the planet and all its inhabitants
- How to make a difference in the world
- Taking personal responsibility for our decisions and behaviours

Culture / Community

At Chilton Primary School we recognise the importance of considering the wider community and the role the school can play in supporting environmental sustainability. The school currently promotes a range of sustainable initiatives including:

- Encouraging walking, cycling and scootering to school to reduce vehicle emissions
- Installing additional cycle and scooter storage to encourage sustainable travel to school
- Encouraging pupils and staff to use reusable water bottles
- Providing a second-hand uniform bank to encourage re-use and reduce waste
- Sourcing recycled products where possible, including paper supplies



Objective 1. Decarbonisation

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Heating systems will run effectively and carbon emissions will be reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular servicing is in place. Review site and highlight any areas of heat loss. Addition of draft proofing in EYFS where the external doors are open to facilitate free flow learning. Radiators on external walls will have reflection panels installed. 	Office Manager Estates Team	Reduction in carbon emissions. Heat loss reduced. Lower energy bills.
Reduce Carbon Emissions by greater use of outdoor space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor areas are used more extensively (refer to Biodiversity section). 	Office Manager Headteacher Staff	Reduction in carbon emissions. Increased education of nature and the outdoors. Diversity in learning.

Objective 2. Adaption and Resilience

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Build resilience in children in coping with rising temperatures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage all children to wear suitable clothing for the changing weather: coats, sunhats. Communicate this with parents via newsletters. Encourage all children to have a water bottle in school every day. 	Staff Children School Council Office Manager Parents/Carers	More resilience in all weather. Better health leading to improved school attendance.
Be more waterwise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage a 'low water waste' culture in school. School Council to lead an in-school awareness campaign. 	School Council Staff	Use less water. Lower water bills. More resilient in times of drought.
School awareness of Climate Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage Governors to include the Climate Action Plan within meetings to build on the school's resilience. Share Climate Action Plan on the school website. School Assembly sharing the vision of the plan. 	Headteacher Governors Office Manager	Culture of awareness and resilience. Better 'buy in' of the Climate Action Plan.



Objective 3: Biodiversity

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
No Mow May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure No Mow May takes place on the front field. Encourage children and parents/carers to get involved within their own spaces at home via the newsletter. 	Office Manager Estates Team Grounds Contractor Headteacher	Increased biodiversity. Encouraging wildlife to the area. Encouraging a love of wildlife.

Objective 4: Climate Education and Green Careers

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Educate the school community in recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle waste in school: paper and card.. Investigate whiteboard pens which can be refilled. Investigate glue sticks which can be refilled. 	Office Manager School Council Children Staff	Improved education amongst all parties in school. Lower amount of waste going to land fill.
Introduce and educate the school community in food recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly to introduce food recycling. Food waste bins purchased. Arrange food bin collections. Correct labeling of food bins. Staff ensure children understand and follow the procedures of correct waste disposal. 	Office Manager Headteacher	Legal requirements met. Increased recycling of food waste.

Objective 5: Travel

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Encourage walking, cycling and scooting to school and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to School week is advertised and participation encouraged by the whole school community. 	Office Manager Staff Children	Improved awareness of impact of cars to the environment.



participate in Walk to School Week annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources purchased to encourage participation (stickers / posters) Inter-class friendly competition 		Improved health leading to better school attendance.
Improve cycling and scooter skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bikeability to run at least annually for Year 6 children. 	Office Manager Staff Children	Safer travel to school. Reduce parking issues. Reduce pollution close to the school.

Objective 6: Air Quality

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Asthma Friendly School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for Asthma Friendly School status – Gold Level. All children with asthma have asthma plans in place and are updated annually. Staff are asthma trained. 	Office Manager Staff Parents/Carers	Improved awareness of asthma. Procedures and policies are in place and followed by all parties.

Objective 7: Climate Education and Green Careers

Objective	How this will be achieved	Who will be involved	Impact
Reduction in plastic waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the possibility of additional recycling initiatives. 	Office Manager Catering Provider Staff	Less waste to landfill. Greater awareness of environmental issues.
Uniform Re-use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping Hands event held fortnightly. Second hand uniform available to parents/carers free of charge. Second hand uniform events held throughout the year. 	Office Manager Staff Parents/Carers	Less waste to landfill. Assistance to low-income families.