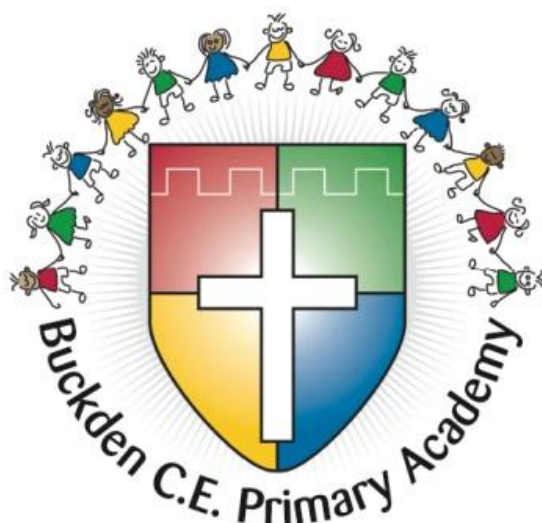


Buckden CE Primary Academy



Climate Action Plan

Climate Action Plan

Our Climate Action Plan has been written in line with Our Environmental Trust Strategy published by our trust <https://www.act-academytrust.com/page/?title=Our+Sustainability+Pledge&pid=43>

Our Trusts Pledge to:

- Reduce carbon across our Trust.
- Formulate our Trust's contribution to environmental sustainability as a key priority.
- Ensure that a plan is developed to make this happen in 2025.

It is in line with the Trusts Vision and Values:

The vision and values of the Trust are reviewed annually to ensure that they support environmental sustainability and the Trust will consult stakeholders on whether the values need to be updated to ensure care for the environment is more explicitly incorporated. This would generate a commitment to develop policies and procedures that ensure the values are lived on a daily basis. Ensuring clarity of vision is the first core function for every governing board. The vision should, in a few sentences, describe what the school or trust will look like in three-to-five years' time, and what their pupils will leave the school knowing, thinking and having done. Making environmental sustainability part of the vision reinforces the commitment to developing and promoting practice throughout the school or trust.

It incorporates the Four C's Model of Curriculum, Community, Campus and Culture in line with our Trusts Environmental Strategy

It is also part of the Department for Education's (DfE) requirements, our plan includes at least one action from these four key areas:

1. decarbonisation
2. biodiversity
3. adaptation and resilience
4. climate education and green careers goals



Goal	Action	Steps	Timeline for the action or expected completion date	Resources
Establishing your baseline	<p>To establish our baseline we will use Energy Sparks to understand our energy usage.</p> <p>Understand your school's waste by conducting a bin audit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Re-apply to be part of Energy Sparks for another year ✓ Conduct bin audit. ✓ Review findings and propose recommendations to reduce or recycle waste. 	<p>July 2025</p> <p>Autumn 2025</p>	<p>Headteacher https://energysparks.uk/schools/buckden-cofe-primary-school</p> <p>Eco-lead and pupils How to do a plastic waste bin audit - Plastic Free July Climate Friendly Audit – Climate Friendly Schools</p>

Decarbonisation	<p>Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by monitoring the use of electricity and gas using Energy Sparks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Give operational staff, Headteacher and Eco Lead access to the energy sparks dashboard ✓ Weekly monitoring by operational staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of academic year 2025/26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team - Eco Lead • Cost: time
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	Create a decarbonisation plan for the school that includes its heating systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Half termly monitoring by Eco lead and pupils ✓ Use helpful guides to develop a plan that details the change of heating outputs so they are more efficient. ✓ Speak to experts who support schools. ✓ Assess building for areas of heat loss. ✓ Make small changes to help prevent heat loss e.g. draft excluders. ✓ Use energy saving trust for more tips. ✓ Check that your building/s management and heating systems are running efficiently and correctly. 	CIF Bid in currently in appeal	Maxwells to review
	Assess buildings for draughts and leaks to reduce heating demand.		Autumn 2025	Site manager Energy Saving Trust
	Assess how well you are using your existing heat system/s. Reduce carbon emissions in our buildings by teaching lessons outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plan a lesson outdoors. ✓ Make the most of your outdoor environments and bring students outside for lessons. ✓ Ensure all lights, monitors, devices are switched off and doors closed when outside. 	Autumn 2025 Autumn 2025	Site manager Teaching staff

				Teach Outdoors, Education through outdoor learning A Teachers Guide to Adapting Lesson Plans for Outdoor Learning (dbdplay.com) Institute for Outdoor Learning – Home (outdoor-learning.org)
Biodiversity	To increase biodiversity of the school site, as access to green space can have a positive impact on well-being and mental health of staff and students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Allocate spaces to different members of staff as part of either curriculum, extra-curricular, nurture or adaptive teaching. ✓ Educate pupils about nature and wildlife conservation through the school curriculum using the outside spaces ✓ Eco Council to undertake species surveys and monitor ✓ Sign up to Education Nature Park for more resources. ✓ Advertise amongst pupils via Eco council 	<p>Begin Autumn 2025</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Establish a baseline September 2025</p>	<p>Plants, trees and additional tools.</p> <p>Look for donations and grants to support this.</p> <p>Seven simple ways to create a wildlife-friendly garden Natural History Museum (nhm.ac.uk)</p> <p>Use INSET time to give staff time to plan this in</p> <p>Time out of class for Eco lead</p> <p>Teaching staff</p>

	<p>Increase our school's knowledge of biodiversity by joining an online biodiversity network.</p> <p>Increase biodiversity on school property by growing food at your school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Look at the cost of a Polycrub for the site and funding ✓ Grow food getting pupils/staff/parents involved in maintenance and harvest ✓ Distribute food to school canteen or use in cooking lessons 	<p>Engaging all stakeholders in our aims, in line with Trusts strategy</p> <p>Summer 2026</p>	<p>Education Nature Park.</p> <p>Food Growing and Gardening edible rotherhithe</p> <p>Who we are Food Growing Schools London</p>
Resilience and adaptation	<p>Heat risk - to be aware that this can cause physical heat stress, dehydration, and unhelpful learning environments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Have a Heat Risk Plan for when temperatures are predicted to rise above 30 degrees that includes all actions for staff including change to dress code, putting up gazebos, opening windows early and closing blinds etc. ✓ Ensure we are proactively planning to mitigate risk for vulnerable staff and students, including those with pre-existing health vulnerabilities and social vulnerabilities. ✓ Consider air-conditioning units or fans for each classroom ✓ CIF bid in to review drains 	<p>Spring 2026</p> <p>Spring 2026</p>	<p>Senior leadership team to create Heat Risk Plan</p> <p>8 Ways a Shade Sail Can Benefit Your School - Able Canopies</p> <p>Arup Compendium</p> <p>Helpful guide to help you understand options for action and prioritise adaptation measures</p> <p>Cost implications, look at funding streams – PTA</p> <p>https://www.ablecanopies.co.uk/funding-for-schools/</p>

	Flooding – Higher risk of flooding due to heavy rainfall and flash flooding.	✓ Have a plan on how to access building in the case of a playground flood	Autumn 2025 – resubmission of the bid	Building Maintenance Company – Maxwells Senior leadership team
Climate education and green careers	<p>Educating the students about green careers</p> <p>Increase our school's knowledge of climate change initiatives by joining a climate network.</p> <p>Embed sustainability and climate education in the wider curriculum by inviting external speakers to come into school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review the careers related learning across each year group to see where a green careers can be introduced. ✓ Highlight the green careers in green on the curriculum plan. ✓ Research networks and decide which is the best for your school to keep up to date with latest information and opportunities. ✓ Sign up to the network. ✓ Arrange for external speakers to come into school to run workshops/ talks. 	Autumn 2025 ongoing	<p>All teaching staff – INSET time</p> <p>Home - Eco Schools (eco-schools.org.uk)</p> <p>UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero (letsgozero.org)</p> <p>Eco Active's Green Influencers Scheme</p> <p>Energy Garden</p>
Active and sustainable Travel	To encourage active and sustainable travel	To have in place the bike-ability programme so that more children use bikes.	Spring 2026	<p>PE Lead</p> <p>Cycle Training for Everyone - Deliver Safer Training Bikeability</p>

	Research a cycle to school scheme for staff	<p>To put in place more storage for bikes and scooters to encourage active travel.</p> <p>Enrol your school in the cycle to work scheme.</p> <p>Promote amongst staff.</p>	Autumn 2025	<p>PE Lead - Use of Sports Premium funding for scooter and bike racks</p> <p>Senior leadership team</p> <p>Cycle2Work</p>
Air quality	Improve Air quality	<p>Encourage parents not to leave cars running outside the school</p> <p>Review the reinstatement of School Streets programme with the parent working party.</p> <p>Plant more trees in the school grounds to improve air quality</p>	<p>Autumn 2025 and ongoing</p> <p>Eco Council</p> <p>Parent working Party engaging all stakeholder in line with trusts strategy</p>	<p>School parliament and parent working party</p> <p>Parish Council – link for School Streets</p>
Waste, consumption and recycling	Reduce consumption as a school.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Look as a whole staff at how to reduce paper use by 10% over the year by reducing worksheet use. 2. Look at replacing broken toys etc. with recycled or repaired items 	Summer 2026	Teaching staff

	Encourage families to reduce, reuse, recycle and repair	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Advertise any local initiative through the newsletter such as the Village repair café. PTA second hand uniform shop etc. 4. Promote the ink cartridge, battery and clothes recycling banks in school 		<p>Use of the repair café, the Man's Shed and Facebook market place</p> <p>Admin and PTA time</p>
Food	Introduce sustainability in food procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue with the meat-free options every day. 2. Look to use lentils to substitute some meat as this has financial and nutritional benefits. 3. Seek out local suppliers where ever possible. 4. Use locally grown produce wherever possible, use produce from the allotment. 5. Tailor meals that are not popular with pupils 	Summer 2026	Cook and local suppliers

