

New Town Primary School

Sustainability and Climate Change plan: October 2024

Children and young people are worried about climate change and want to know more about:

- the impact it is having now
- how it will impact their future lives

Our school has a responsibility for preparing children for the challenges and opportunities they will face – with the appropriate knowledge, skills and pastoral care. Through education we have the privilege to be able to engage directly with children and young people who:

- are passionate about the natural world
- want to do their best to protect it
- can influence their wider communities

Through their learned and lived experiences from early years upwards, we will provide opportunities to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the importance of nature, sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change and to translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.

Focus	Where are we now	What else do we need to do	By when and who	Outcome
Climate education Preparing pupils for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience. Ensuring the education we provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that our	Curriculum includes progressive and planned references and content related to this topic	Curriculum evaluation to take place, review of resources available and make necessary changes to the curriculum so that it reflects this agenda	Curriculum leaders and Nikita Lambe, By September 2025	Children are well prepared and knowledgeable about the impact of climate change, and know how they can support this
	Library material does not contain many references to this priority	Invest in high quality fiction and non-fiction books to ensure this priority is reflected in reading material	HT, by January 2025 COMPLETED JANUARY 2025	Children see this priority reflected in reading material much more frequently, and are able to discuss the impact on them and how they can

teaching staff feel supported to offer this				positively influence climate change.
	Very few references to our commitment to climate change on website, or how we teach about sustainability	Evaluate how we can raise awareness through our website, and provide information to our parents about how they can impact climate change and sustainability	HT, By January 2025 COMPLETED JANUARY 2025	Families understand the school's commitment to climate change and sustainability, and can access information about local recycling for example
	Varying confidence levels in teaching about climate change and sustainability	Undertake teacher survey to assess where training and engagement with outside organisations may be of benefit	HT, By July 2025	Confident staff and great delivery of the curriculum surrounding climate change and sustainability, informed by engaging with specialist organisations for resources and information.
	Limited knowledge base for pupils, lower awareness of the topic than is needed	Run assemblies and promotional events at school, and engage with local organisations and the University to plan exciting opportunities to raise awareness	HT & Geography & Art leaders, By July 2025 Geography / Eco day planned for January 2025 Assembly from Climate Change Ambassador in Spring Term Whole school art creation to raise awareness	Pupils are aware of their personal impact in the world and how they can be prepared for a world affected by these changes
Net zero: Reducing emissions from education buildings and providing opportunities for pupils to get involved in the transition to net zero.	Installed LED lighting in 90% of school buildings: 23-24 academic year	Remaining 10% of lighting to be converted to LED	Site manager and HT, by July 2025	Reduced energy consumption Reduced need for replacement parts
	No separate Eco Council	Student Eco Council to be set up	Miriam Fullbrook, By Easter 2025 ECO-WARRIORS CLUB STARTED IN JANUARY 2025	Raise awareness of sustainability and practical changes we need to make throughout the school
	Limited recycling and low awareness level of what can be recycled	Review the types of bins in school and how they are used. Produce a strategy to ensure bins are used consistently, and recycling can be increased.	Site manager and HT, by Easter 2025 COMPLETED DECEMBER 2024	NTPS recycles an increased amount of waste, and staff and children are clear about how to do this every day in school.

		Monitor using determined measures.		
	Food waste is high	Reduce food waste over time: work with caterers to create measures for this and promote less food waste	HT and Office Manager, begin work on this by December 2025	Reduced food waste and better understanding how we can reduce this at school and home
	Uniform has already been considered to ensure it is fit for purpose in terms of being able to be reused	Promote more regular uniform give-aways, encourage parents to take good quality second hand goods rather than buy new	Nicole Hughes, every term	NTPS uniform has longevity and is able to effectively be used many times. Less new uniform is bought, and second-hand give-aways grow in popularity.
Resilience: Adapting school buildings and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change such as taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating.	Installed insulation into approximately 50% of the classrooms to reduce heat loss: August 2024	Where works allow, consider further insulation	Site manager and HT When possible and if opportunity arises	Reduced energy consumption over time
	No EV chargers	Undertake staff survey to assess the need for EV chargers to be installed in car park: liaise with ODST to complete these works.	HT to undertake staff survey by July 2025 Works to be completed by end of 2026	Encourage staff to move to electric cars, and provide easy charging points for those using clean energy already.
	Solar panels on Kitchen Hall	Consider whether further solar panels could be installed in school: ODST to complete feasibility study	HT and ODST, by January 2026	Generation of cleaner renewable energy
A better environment for future generations: Enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality and increasing access to (and connection with) nature in and around schools.	Pupils have the opportunity to increase access to the outdoors through the school Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme	Consider where opportunities lie within our site to increase biodiversity, and use what green space we have to enhance the curriculum	Review trip and curriculum plans for each year group by July 2025, to take place in 2025-26 academic year	Children have regular opportunities to experience the local biodiversity and nature which exists in and around school
	Gardening and Nature clubs run in the summer terms	Increase focus on nature within our locality, plan trips to ensure children are aware of the benefits of spending time outdoors and when connecting with nature		Secret Garden is used more and enhances curriculum delivery
	Significant investment in the Secret garden area means it is a better teaching space			