



Hipswell Church of England Primary School Sustainability Leadership and Climate Action Plan

At Hipswell Church of England Primary School, we are dedicated to contributing towards an environmentally friendly, more sustainable future. We believe that small actions can contribute to positive changes. By integrating sustainability into school operations and education, we not only reduce our environmental footprint but also empower pupils, staff and the wider community with the knowledge and skills to make a difference by becoming environmentally responsible citizens. It is based on four key ideas: reducing carbon emissions, increasing climate resilience, enhancing biodiversity, and embedding sustainability across our curriculum and school culture.

Our approach reflects the Department for Education's guidance and supports the national ambition to reach net zero by 2050.

Key area	Aim	Action	Outcome	Evaluation
Decarbonisation	Reduce energy use through everyday changes.	Eco-council lead campaign to switch off lights and devices when not in use. Encourage walking/cycling to school - bikeability. Educate pupils on the impact of carbon release and ways to contribute to reduce carbon emissions and improve carbon capture.	Pupils learn small but specific ways they can contribute to reducing carbon emissions both in an out of school. Pupils understand that many small actions have a significant impact and that each small action is worth the effort.	
Adaptation and resilience	Become more environmentally friendly. Readiness for changes.	Include one PSHE lesson or assembly per term that explores positive ways to cope with climate change	Pupils start to understand the challenges faced globally and start to build a desire to protect the environment in small but meaningful ways.	

		<p>(e.g. droughts, heatwaves, floods). Consider how thoughtful planting contributes to carbon capture and reduces global and localised temperatures and can reduce flooding. Rainwater collection for water butts. Complete an energy audit.</p>		
Biodiversity & Environment	Make space for nature within our school grounds.	<p>Designate one small area as a wild corner (bug hotel, wildflower patch) and observe changes through the seasons. Each class has the opportunity to nurture their own small gardens, growing food or flowers to encourage pollinators and to create beauty. Join Education Nature Parks Scheme and follow guidance on how to increase biodiversity within the</p>	<p>Pupils learn that they have agency in protecting the environment and that biodiversity is vital to ensure environmental resilience and continued food production. They understand where their food comes from and that the changing climate influences food production. Children understand the importance of insects in supporting a healthy</p>	

		<p>school grounds and increase pupil engagement with the environment. Keep Britain Tidy - the Great big School Clean 13.03.26 - 29.03.26. Eco-Council to lead assemblies to gain ideas for biodiversity from children throughout the school. Link ideas into the Eco-Council's action plan.</p>	<p>environment and food webs.</p>	
<p>Climate Education & Green Careers</p>	<p>Inspire children with knowledge and hope for a sustainable future.</p>	<p>Each class to explore one climate-related topic per year in geography. Link to green jobs such as wildlife Ranger, climate scientists, inventors, Zoo keepers, ecologists, gardeners. Designated time within each half term linked to Climate Action Plan for pupils to engage with, maintain and improve school environment (may include opportunities to</p>	<p>Pupils take responsibility for their environment, taking care and learning about the living things in the school grounds. They become adept observers and learn to make careful and informed decisions when interacting with nature both at school and outside of school.</p>	

		observe changes due to our actions, survey grounds and initiate continued improvement, maintain growing areas and take responsibility for environment). Consider use of Kapow sustainability units.		
--	--	---	--	--