Climate Action Plan 2026 to 2027

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
One year plan Autumn 2026 to Summer 2027

Latest reported carbon footprint: 58 tCO_2e per year | Calculation date and reporting period: 13th October 2026
Historical figure: 69.62, recorded 2025; unit, period and scope: 5.11.2025

Head:	Sustainability Lead:	School Business Manager:	Site Manager:	Catering Lead:
Mrs Miller	**Miss Newey**	**Mrs J Stonehouse**	**Mr Mansell**	**Gemma**

This Climate Action Plan sets out our sustainability priorities for Autumn 2026 to Summer 2027. We will build on pupils' learning about Creation and stewardship through manageable actions to reduce energy use, care for nature and prepare for extreme weather. Our proximity to Birmingham Airport provides a local context for learning about air quality and environmental care.

Review of 2025 to 2026: delivery of the wider action plan was limited. Pupils learnt the story of Creation, their role as stewards of God's creation and the importance of caring for His world. For 2026–27, the focus is on turning this learning into regular habits and achievable practical projects.

Proposed targets for 2026 to 2027

- Establish monthly gas and electricity monitoring by December 2026. Aim for a 10% reduction in kWh across September 2026 to July 2027 against the same months in 2025–26, subject to a reliable baseline. Review progress termly.
- Create or improve one manageable habitat area by July 2027, with pupils involved in its care. Record photographs and termly wildlife observations; check the condition of any existing bug hotels first.
- Each year group to deliver at least two sustainability-linked lessons or practical activities per term, building on Creation and Catholic stewardship. Map suitable links in RE, science and geography by December 2026.
- Share one sustainability update with families and the parish each term, and review heat, flooding and water-supply risks by March 2027.

Draft for school review | Updated 13 October 2026 with reported progress and carbon figure. New targets and deadlines are proposed. Confirm role holders, costs, baseline details and School Improvement Plan links before approval.

Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency **Measure and reduce carbon emissions, energy use and resource consumption.**						
Action	**Cost and benefit**	**Ease and priority**	**Timeframe**	**Key stakeholders**	**School Improvement Plan link**	**Progress and evidence**
Let's Go Zero Confirm whether we have already joined. If so, continue engagement; otherwise consider joining and requesting free Climate Action Advisor support. Useful link: letsgozero.org	Input: No cost Output: No direct savings	Easy Optional	Confirm position by December 2026. Review July 2027.	Sustainability Lead		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Count Your Carbon Record the latest reported footprint of 58 tCO_2e per year. Retain the calculation report and confirm its date, reporting period, scope and assumptions. Compare annual results only where the inputs and method are comparable. Useful link: countyourcarbon.org	Input: No cost Output: Measured carbon footprint	Moderate Optional	Confirm report details by December 2026. Review July 2027; agree the next calculation date.	Sustainability Lead		Latest reported footprint: 58 tCO_2e per year. Date and period to confirm. Historical figure: 69.62; no verified reduction claimed.
Action 1 Energy consumption Reduce energy, water and product use through sustainable habits. Record gas and electricity monthly; undertake a water efficiency audit and address leaks. Review progress against the 10% energy target.	Input: No cost Output: Potential savings To measure	Moderate Non Negotiable	Audit by December 2026. Monthly monitoring; final review July 2027.	Sustainability Lead, whole school including catering, cleaning and SSO.	Personal Development: pupils learn sustainable habits and help run energy campaigns.	2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.

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Action 2 Energy campaigns Run a school switch-off fortnight in Autumn 2026, followed by termly reminders. Check lights and equipment safely and compare meter readings before and after the campaign. Confirm national campaign dates before booking participation.	Input: No cost Output: Potential savings To measure	Moderate Optional	Autumn 2026 campaign. Review each term to July 2027.	Sustainability Lead, whole school including catering, cleaning and SSO		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 3 Transport Continue or establish a walking-to-school campaign, using Living Streets resources where appropriate. Repeat a pupil travel survey each term; include safe walking, wheeling, cycling and park-and-stride options. Use a nature findings board. Continue supervised local litter picking linked to stewardship.	Input: No cost Output: Potential savings To measure	Easy Optional	Baseline survey Autumn 2026. Repeat Spring and Summer 2027.	Sustainability Lead and whole of KS2 to begin with.	Personal Development: pupils learn active travel, healthy lifestyles and sustainable choices.	2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Confirm any existing travel or litter-picking activity; use travel surveys and dated records this year.
Action 4: Business Travel Ensure there is a hybrid model of meetings, only having face to face offsite where necessary	Input: No cost Output: Potential savings To measure	Easy Non Negotiable	Start date: Autumn 2026 Review date: July 2027	SBM/HT		Previous plan records hybrid governors' meetings; not reconfirmed in this update. Confirm current arrangements and record journeys avoided in 2026–27.

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Action 5 Air quality Seek information from Birmingham Airport and the local authority about local air quality. Use suitable evidence in learning; share an anti-idling message with families. Consider an Eco group visit if practical and approved.	Input: Staff time; visit costs to confirm Output: Better awareness and reduced idling	Easy Non Negotiable	Contact in Autumn 2026. Review response Spring 2027 and progress July 2027.	HT/SBM		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 6 Baseline data gathering Update MAC-wide records of the school site, gas, electricity and water use. Retain bills and meter readings; identify data gaps and separate consumption from costs.	Input: No cost Output: No direct savings	Moderate Non Negotiable	Collate by December 2026. Monthly updates; review July 2027.	Site Manager School Business Manager MAC estates team		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 7 Reduce recycle and reuse Reduce single-use plastics and provide access to drinking water. Continue or introduce uniform and book swaps; reuse or recycle IT equipment through approved routes and reduce printing. Record termly paper use, swap participation and waste where data are available.	Input: No cost Output: Saving on waste collection. Savings on print costs	Moderate Non Negotiable	Start date: Autumn 2026 Review date: July 2027	Head Teacher SBM IT Lead SBM		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.

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Action 8 Reduce deliveries Plan resource needs and consolidate orders where practical. Compare delivery frequency termly; check storage space, waste and total cost before bulk buying.	Input: No cost Output: Saving on bulk buying discounts, reduction in emissions	Moderate Non Negotiable	Start date: Autumn 2026 Review date: July 2027	SBM Site Manager		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 9 Quick wins Switch off unnecessary lights and equipment. Review heating schedules, zoning and holiday settings with the Site Manager, maintaining suitable temperatures and ventilation. Record checks and faults monthly.	Input: No cost Output: Savings on energy usage	Easy Non Negotiable	Start date: Autumn 2026 Review date: July 2027	All pupils and staff		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure **Create or improve one manageable habitat area by July 2027. Check existing habitats and record pupils' observations.**						
Action	**Cost and benefit**	**Ease and priority**	**Timeframe**	**Key stakeholders**	**School Improvement Plan link**	**Progress and evidence**
Action 1 Develop a habitat in the school grounds Gospel activists and Eco Heroes to help choose one manageable area, such as the prayer area, for suitable plants, shrubs or a wildflower patch. Link care for living things to stewardship; agree a simple maintenance rota.	Input : Small cost Output : more biodiversity, improved school grounds.	Moderate Optional	Choose one area by December 2026. Plant by Spring 2027; review July 2027.	Forest School Lead, Sustainability Lead, Eco Heroes. PP children.	Behaviour and attitudes: pupils practise respect and stewardship through caring for shared spaces and nature.	2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 2 Care for existing habitats Check whether the Year 3 bug hotels recorded in the previous plan remain in place and usable. Repair where practical and carry out termly bug watches. Maintain the chosen planting area; introduce food growing if capacity allows. Agree watering and holiday care.	Input: No/small cost Output more biodiversity, improved school grounds.	Moderate Non Negotiable	Check habitats Autumn 2026. Plant Spring 2027; monitor termly to July 2027.	Forest School Lead, Sustainability Lead, Eco Heroes. PP children.		Previous plan records Year 3 bug hotels in September 2025; not reconfirmed in this update. Check condition before recording them as current provision.

Climate Education Green Skills and Green Careers **Build on Creation and Catholic stewardship through at least two sustainability-linked lessons or practical activities per year group each term.**						
Action	**Cost and benefit**	**Ease and priority**	**Timeframe**	**Key stakeholders**	**School Improvement Plan link**	**Progress and evidence**
Action 1 Curriculum Build on learning about the story of Creation and our responsibility as stewards of God's world. Map age-appropriate opportunities in RE, science and geography; include other subjects where useful. Use practical work on saving energy and caring for nature, supported by Building the Kingdom. Keep examples of pupil learning.	Input: Staff time Output: Climate knowledge and skills	Moderate Non Negotiable	Map by December 2026. Review provision termly; evaluate July 2027.	Headteacher Subject leaders	Quality of Education: develop pupils' knowledge of the changing world through planned curriculum links.	2025–26 confirmed learning: the story of Creation, stewardship of God's creation and caring for His world. In 2026–27, record curriculum links, practical activities and pupil work.
Action 2 Pupil sustainability councils Confirm Eco Heroes representatives for 2026–27. Pupils help deliver the energy checks and one habitat project, then share what they have learnt in assemblies. Build a regular routine before adding further projects.	Input: No cost Output: Pupil Engagement / Stakeholder Buy in	Moderate Non Negotiable	Confirm group Autumn 2026. Termly updates; review July 2027.	Headteacher Subject leaders Eco Heroes		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.

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Action	**Cost and benefit**	**Ease and priority**	**Timeframe**	**Key stakeholders**	**School Improvement Plan link**	**Progress and evidence**
Action 3 Train our staff Identify staff training needs in climate teaching, behaviour change, energy management and sustainable procurement. Arrange suitable training or briefings through MAC Sustainability Leads and free support where available; record attendance and how learning is applied.	Input: Staff time; any course fees to confirm Output: Improved staff knowledge	Moderate Non Negotiable	Identify needs Autumn 2026. Briefing by March 2027; review July 2027.	All staff	Staff CPD: support staff to teach sustainability and apply learning to school improvement.	2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.
Action 4 Engage the wider community Share one sustainability update each term through school and parish newsletters. Invite families to participate in practical activities such as uniform swaps, planting or active travel. Gather brief feedback to shape the next plan.	Input: No cost Output: Wider engagement	Easy Non Negotiable	One update each term. Review engagement July 2027.	Head Teacher		2025–26: limited delivery reported overall. Action carried forward for 2026–27; record dated evidence at each termly review.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience **Proposed addition: assess exposure to extreme weather and agree practical measures to protect learning and the school estate.**						
Action	**Cost and benefit**	**Ease and priority**	**Timeframe**	**Key stakeholders**	**School Improvement Plan link**	**Progress and evidence**
Action 1 Assess climate risks Review areas vulnerable to overheating, surface water, flooding or water interruption. Record risks and actions with MAC estates support; connect findings to site maintenance and emergency planning.	Input: Staff time Output: Prioritised site actions	Moderate Proposed priority	Assess by March 2027. Review July 2027.	Site Manager SBM HT MAC estates	Proposed link: a safe learning environment and reliable site operation.	New proposed action. Evidence: dated risk review, owners and action list.
Action 2 Prepare for hot weather Review shading, ventilation, access to drinking water and arrangements for outdoor activities. Agree staff responsibilities and communication through existing school procedures; log rooms needing estates advice.	Input: Staff time; any works subject to budget Output: Ready for hot weather	Moderate Proposed priority	Agree arrangements by May 2027. Review after hot weather.	HT Site Manager All staff	Proposed link: pupil wellbeing and continuity of learning.	New proposed action. Evidence: updated procedures, briefing and issue log.
Action 3 Maintain drainage and water resilience Arrange drainage and gutter checks; record blockages, leaks and repairs. Review arrangements for water-supply interruptions. Consider suitable planting and rainwater use for gardens, subject to site checks and funding.	Input: Staff time; repair costs to confirm Output: Reduced disruption and water waste	Moderate Proposed priority	Checks Autumn 2026 and Spring 2027. Review July 2027.	Site Manager SBM MAC estates	Proposed link: effective estate maintenance.	New proposed action. Evidence: inspection and repair records; water-use review.

Monitoring and Reporting

- Carbon footprint: latest reported total is 58 tCO_2e per year. Retain the calculation report and confirm the calculation date, reporting period and scope by December 2026. Review annually. The historical 69.62 figure is not yet verified as comparable, so no measured reduction is claimed.
- Progress tracking: the Sustainability Lead coordinates reviews in December 2026, March 2027 and July 2027. Owners record status, date, evidence, barriers and next steps; report to governors and share a suitable summary with the parish. The July review informs the 2027–28 plan.
- Pupil involvement: Eco Heroes share learning and practical progress in assemblies each term. Use energy records, observations from the habitat project and examples of pupil work to show how stewardship is becoming part of school life.
- Community accountability: publish agreed progress summaries in newsletters and on the school website. Headteacher and governors to confirm the final 2026–27 plan; approval date to be recorded.

Guidance used for this update: DfE Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education (updated 30 October 2025; checked 13 October 2026).

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sustainability-leadership-and-climate-action-plans-in-education