






Your School's Climate Action Plan

St Giles' CE Primary School - 09/07/25

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Support parents to prioritise public transport</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Encouraging parents and pupils to use public transport for the school journey, means less cars creating air pollution and less petrol and diesel cars means a reduction in carbon emissions.</p> <p>New parents receive plenty of information about the school and this can include local information about public transport. Encouraging families to use public transport can have an impact on the school run making the locality safer and less polluted.</p> <p>1) To encourage the use of public transport to school provide information about local transport to new parents.</p> <p>2) Add the links to the school website and to any other suitable promotional materials such as the school newsletter.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>There will be less traffic on the school run outside school.</p>	<p>Free bus passes are available for pupils in certain circumstances such as the journey to school being more than 3 miles. Purchasing an igo card means that pupils travelling on public transport aged 5-16 can pay the child fare rate.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our transport and travel " which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Students to take part in a litter survey</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Litter not only makes our environment look unpleasant, but it impacts the health of thousands of animals every year, as well as reaching and polluting our oceans and rivers.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>In the process students will be clearing up litter in their local area.</p>	<p>In Marine Conservation Society's Litter in the Environment lesson plan and worksheets, students will experience litter in the environment first-hand by taking part in a litter survey. Results will then be analysed, looking at the sources and properties of litter, considering how it could impact the environment.</p>
<p>Campaign for national action on air pollution</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>The school community can significantly influence decision-makers and in turn help shape the world we live in, for example, from influencing national transport and car manufacturing regulations to securing national school funds and updating the curriculum. Write to the Prime Minister, Secretary of State for the Environment and your MP asking for the changes your school and students would like to see on air pollution, sending pictures can also help grab attention. Ask to meet, share what you have been doing to tackle air pollution and what more you want to happen.</p> <p>Co-benefits:</p> <p>Involving students in a campaign can help to empower them and build confidence in their ability to make a valuable contribution and to change things within their own lives and communities.</p>	<p>The Clean Air Parents Network are calling for Clean Air Zones, Clean Transport and a new Clean Air Act.</p> <p>Twinkl offer a fantastic worksheet, created in partnership with the Parliament Education Service, to plan a letter to your local Member of Parliament.</p>





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<p>Promote active travel on the school run</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Start a walking bus</p> <p>Work with parents/carers to set up walking buses. A walking bus is a group of children and adults who walk to school along a set route, picking up more students along the way. When done on a regular basis, adults can take it in turns to accompany the walking bus.</p> <p>2) Create and share a map of low pollution walking routes to school</p> <p>A walking zone is a defined area around the school within which children and families are encouraged to walk. Work with students to use mapping software to create a map of low pollution walking routes within the walking zone, and distribute this across the school community.</p> <p>3) Launch a week-long active travel challenge to encourage your students to try walking or cycling to school</p> <p>By trying walking and/or cycling to school as part of a fun challenge week, new travel habits can be formed as families and students experience the benefits of active travel.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.</p>	<p>Living Streets hosts an annual Walk to School Week.</p> <p>Living Streets' 'Walking Zones' lesson plan involves children in the set up of a walking zone. Use the 'Creating a map of low pollution walking routes' guide to lead your students through a map-making activity.</p> <p>Take a look at our case study of a school using Clean Air Day to launch their brand-new walking bus as a way to reduce children's exposure to pollution.</p> <p>Download Clean Air Day's the 'How to: Organise a walking bus to school' guide or 'Walking bus banner' and get walking.</p> <p>Check out our case study of a Clean Air Route map design helping 96% of children to walk to school in Bow.</p> <p>Sustrans have resources available to help encourage children to cycle to school.</p>
<p>Include the school's carbon reduction plan in the school plan</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>By putting your carbon reduction plan into your school plan it is at the heart of the school's planning.</p> <p>The DfE advice is to develop a 'green policy' which includes a mission statement; objectives and targets; roles and responsibilities; a framework for action planning and milestones to review progress. Your school plan will, undoubtedly, already include all of these, so the carbon reduction plan could be slotted in.</p> <p>1) The school leadership must agree as it is to ensure that carbon reduction is not marginalised.</p> <p>2) Once agreed run an audit to discover what needs to be prioritised.</p> <p>3) Ensure the actions on the carbon reduction plan are regularly reported on.</p>	<p>The Department of Education advises on creating a 'Green Policy'. Electricity NW's website shares technical information and case studies. For a more school's focused resource you could use the S3 School's Self Assessment tool.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our resilience and adaptation to climate change" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>




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Invite a visitor to speak about Fairtrade  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Are you and your school new to Fairtrade and want to learn more?</p> <p>There are many people that you could invite to speak at your school – your local Fairtrade community group may have somebody who would like to come and speak to pupils about Fairtrade. You could get in touch with a local Fairtrade-supporting supermarket to see if they have somebody who can talk about Fairtrade in your school.</p> <p>It is also possible to request a visit from a member of staff from the Fairtrade Foundation using the request form.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Your students can hear from an expert on Fairtrade.</p>	<p>You can find out where your nearest Fairtrade Community Group is here.</p>
Hold a Fairtrade assembly  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Present an assembly to help raise awareness and understanding of Fairtrade across the whole school.</p> <p>Fairtrade have a range of assemblies to choose from in the assembly section of their teaching resources library or you could make one of your own.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>The student-led role play assemblies support children to become confident individuals, boost self-esteem and develop empathy.</p>	<p>A Fairtrade message from Lothersdale Primary School in West Yorkshire.</p>
Sign Up to the Let's Go Zero Campaign  Pathway: Campus	<p>Call for action from the government to support schools in being zero carbon.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Join a movement of schools. The campaign calls for policy change and supports schools to reduce their carbon footprint.</p>	<p>Let's Go Zero is a campaign demanding government backing for zero carbon schools. Every school that signs up is pledging to work towards a more sustainable future, while also urging the government to support this vital mission.</p>
Complete a water audit action plan  Pathway: Campus	<p>Carrying out a water audit will help your school to identify where leaks and inefficient water usage is taking place.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>As well as saving water, this activity will support the school in saving energy and reduce its water costs. This activity can also help schools achieve their eco awards.</p>	<p>Anglian Water's free water audit pack can help you and your students, reduce water use at school. The audit supports the creation of a water school action plan, collecting data on your school's water use and involving your community.</p>



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Sign up to the TOW newsletter, to keep up to date with the latest news, events and resources  Pathway: Community	<p>The Transform Our World (TOW) website, is a dynamic hub with a huge pool of environmental resources for teachers to freely use.</p> <p>Through signing up to the monthly TOW newsletter, you will receive helpful links to the most up to date and relevant resources as well as hearing about important news and events, to keep you fully informed and engaged along your climate action journey.</p>	<p>Go to edit your TOW profile, and tick yes under 'receive news and updates from Transform our World and the latest about the Youth Climate Summit.'</p>
Host an environmental event on a topic of your choice at your school, including parents in the school community  Pathway: Community	<p>Encouraging parents to get involved in environmental action at their child's school is a great way to get them motivated to take action.</p> <p>When this action is happening at school and at home, we can expect longer term, long lasting change in a community.</p>	<p>Green School Bali has more information about changing culture in schools, learn more here.</p>
Engage pupils as Police Community Support Officers outside school  Pathway: Community	<p>This action will encourage parents not to drive to school, reducing air pollution, congestion and carbon emissions.</p> <p>The school run can be problematic. Parents park up in places they are not meant to, engines are running and accidents can happen. By organising young PCSOs to patrol outside school parents can be encouraged to leave their cars at home.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Contact your local Police Community Support Officers to support and engage with young people willing to act as Junior PCSOs. 2) Order road side traffic signs to place outside school during the school run as a reminder to park away from school. 3) Purchase Traffic Enforcement pouches and advice tickets to slot inside. 4) Send letters to parents about the campaign. 5) Ask for the PCSOs to talk to the pupils engaged. 6) Run the campaign. <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Pupils will feel empowered and will be more likely to engage in active travel to school.</p>	<p>The Head at Russell Scott Primary School, Steve Marsland, has written a guide on their Clean Air campaign which includes setting up a scheme for Junior PCSOs.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our transport and travel" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>




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<p>Run a Switch-off campaign</p>  <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Saving energy saves money and reduces the school's carbon footprint. Co-benefits: pupils find they can make a real difference through the campaign and it reduces the need for energy production.</p> <p>Running a Switch-off campaign needs a whole school push to turn off electrical items when they are not in use or not needed. Challenging assumptions about what is deemed necessary can be important. Do all the lights need to be switched on in a room? Does the projector need to be on all lesson?</p> <p>1) Find out who keeps a check on the school's energy use.</p> <p>2) Use their data, or data collected in an energy audit, to find out where most energy is used as this is a good place to save it.</p> <p>3) Get staff and pupils on board by promoting the Switch off.</p> <p>4) Ask the Eco team to monitor what energy is being used across the school during the Switch off.</p> <p>5) Ask the pupils to report back to the whole school on the results.</p>	<p>Eco Schools run Switch-off Fortnight every Autumn term and if you join The Pod you can access lots of support materials.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Raise funds for your school or other causes by recycling unwanted clothes</p>  <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>When clothing is thrown away it goes to landfill sites. These landfill sites do not provide an atmosphere where clothing can biodegrade which leads to the clothing releasing harmful greenhouse gases.</p> <p>If we recycled 100 million lbs of our pre-loved clothing that would be the same as taking 35,000 cars off of the road.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This action redirects and stops unwanted clothes going to landfill, develops students' awareness of textile recycling. Money could be raised for school or a charity.</p>	<p>Recycle 4 School help organise collections of good quality unwanted clothing by encouraging parents, students and staff to recycle their unwanted items, and make a BACS payment into your school fund within 5 working days of the collection.</p> <p>The Recycle 4 School scheme is designed to develop students awareness of textile recycling while providing them with a platform to generate much needed funds for their chosen cause.</p> <p>Alternatively, be creative! Contact the Stitched Up team here, and enquire about a re-fashioning session at your school.</p>



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<p>Ask businesses to help tackle air pollution</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Businesses play a crucial role in tackling air pollution, both through cutting their own air pollution emissions and by providing solutions to make low air pollution lifestyles easier. Use the student voice to approach local and national companies to ask them do more on air pollution.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Involving students in a campaign can help to empower them and build confidence in their ability to make a valuable contribution and to change things within their own lives and communities.</p>	<p>Business for Clean Air Initiative provides guidance and support to help businesses create their own Clean Air Plan.</p>
<p>Ask local decision makers for more action on air pollution</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Use the student voice and the school community's experience of tackling air pollution to ask local decision makers to do more on reducing air pollution in your local area. Taking part in local decision-making could include: writing to and meeting your local councilors or MP, responding to consultations and/or attending consultation events. Students' experiences and opinions can be very influential.</p> <p>Co-benefit</p> <p>Involving students in a campaign can help to empower them and build confidence in their ability to make a valuable contribution and to change things within their own lives and communities.</p>	<p>Living Streets have a guide to getting involved in air quality consultations.</p> <p>Unicef have a guide to involving children in local decision making.</p> <p>Clean Air Day provide a template letter to a councillor.</p> <p>A joint investigation by the Guardian and Greenpeace's investigations unit has revealed which schools across the UK are in air pollution hotpots. This is a useful tool to support your conversations with local decision makers.</p> <p>Check out our case study of a school tackling pavement parking with teddy bears in Newcastle.</p> <p>Take a look at our case study of a school campaigning against idling cars in Greater Manchester.</p>
<p>Take action against habitat loss by developing habitats in your local area</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>We share the UK with around 88,000 different species of animals, plants and fungi. All playing a key role in balancing our ecosystems. Developing and protecting habitats is essential to preserving biodiversity.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Increases biodiversity and gets students out in nature which has a positive impact on wellbeing.</p>	<p>In this lesson provided by Young Citizens, students will learn about the importance of habitats and explore endangered British species and the threats to their habitat.</p> <p>Students will be guided through ways in which they can take action against habitat loss by developing the habitats in their local area.</p>



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<p>Do a school energy audit and prioritise the top three actions</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Understanding the school's energy usage is an important step in identifying ways to save energy which will in turn reduce the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>An energy audit is a survey of the school's buildings and is the first step in identifying opportunities to reduce energy use and lower the school's carbon footprint. Do an audit and decide on three actions school needs to take to reduce energy use.</p> <p>1) Work with pupils to do an energy audit. School users will understand school energy from experience, such as cold and hot spots and provide behavioural knowledge.</p> <p>2) Employ a professional consultant to advise on energy efficiency and renewables. Look for a CIBSE accredited low carbon consultant.</p> <p>3) Check if your local authority has an energy manager who could advise.</p>	<p>MEEN has created an energy audit based on 3 different investigations. Check if your local authority has an energy manager as they should be able to advise.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our energy supply" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>As a teacher calculate, track and reduce your environmental footprint using the Giki app</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Understanding your own environmental footprint can help you understand how your students and school could also reduce their footprint.</p>	<p>Giki Zero provides a personalized programme which helps people understand, track and reduce their carbon footprint and protect the environment. It's a tool for everyone with over 100 steps, tailored for every lifestyle, priority and budget.</p>


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<p>Get your students to lead their own environmental project</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Empower students to lead a project on an environmental topic they care about. They will then be able to apply their learnings by taking action.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students develop skills on leading their very own project that will have a positive impact on their local area.</p>	<p>The WildED workshop programme consists of a series of 3 two-hour workshops where Action for Conservation supports young people to take action on environmental issues that are interesting and relevant to them.</p> <p>Students will develop an understanding of building environmental knowledge, project management and teamwork.</p> <p>"Action for Conservation has not just inspired our students but has also given them practical ways of acting on their inspiration. Their staff were friendly, engaging and highly effective at communicating the urgency and relevance of environmental conservation"</p> <p>Mr Jones, Brentside High School, Ealing</p>
<p>Set up a Goals for Good programme</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Goals for Good is a series of four, one-hour sessions to help young people explore how our values impact on our wellbeing and environment.</p> <p>It draws from research into positive psychology and sustainability to consider what really does, and doesn't, make us happy. Exploring feelings about what we own, and how we choose to spend our time, the course offers an approach to goal setting which cares about values, wellbeing and our planet.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students are able to reflect and recognise what they really care about and make positive decisions and goals going forward that are good for them and the planet.</p>	<p>Watch the following 90 second video to find out why Goals for Good was created.</p> <p>Meet Paddy and Emily, previous participants of the programme, to hear what they thought of the programme.</p>


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<p>Reduce polluting traffic around the school</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Talk to your local authority about reducing speed limits on the streets around your school</p> <p>Reducing speed limits and encouraging smooth driving on roads near the school can cut pollution and improve road safety.</p> <p>2) Talk to your local authority about moving the bus stop away from the playground</p> <p>In some cases, bus stops near the school may be a significant source of emissions with buses frequently braking and accelerating to and from the stop. This may also contribute to queuing traffic and congestion. Relocating the stop further away from the school may help to lessen these issues.</p> <p>3) Ask the council to replace heavy polluting public buses with low emission alternatives</p> <p>Public transport is a lower air pollution option than the car per passenger. However, older buses can still contribute significantly to air pollution. The good news is that low emission buses are available.</p> <p>4) Ask your local authority to limit heavy weight vehicles from using the roads around the school</p> <p>Introduce a weight restriction to prevent large polluting freight vehicles driving past the school.</p> <p>5) Ask your local authority to introduce Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV)-only streets around the school</p> <p>Take a look at the case study on page 19 of the Mayor of London's 'Toolkit of Measures to Improve Air Quality at Schools' for inspiration.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Reducing speed limits will also improve road safety.</p> <p>Encouraging ULEVs around the school will help with the transition away from petrol and diesel vehicles.</p>	<p>Request a speed limit reduction here.</p> <p>The Low Emission Bus Guide provides advice on procuring new buses and retrofitting diesel buses.</p> <p>Page 19 of the Mayor of London's 'Toolkit of Measures to Improve Air Quality at Schools' is an excellent source of inspiration for introducing an Ultra Low Emission Zone.</p>




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<p>Share air pollution reduction advice for when driving is essential</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>1) Allocate a location for a Park and Stride</p> <p>A Park and Stride involves allocating a parking point for parents and carers away from the school (e.g. a public car park or supermarket or cinema car park) from where students can complete their journey on foot.</p> <p>2) Promote car sharing for those who need to drive</p> <p>Car clubs and car-share schemes can help reduce the number of cars on the road. Encourage staff and families who can't walk/cycle/scoot to school to share the school run with others.</p> <p>3) Implement a no idling zone around your school</p> <p>Make your school a no idling zone so that drivers always turn off their engines when stationary, and it is safe to do so.</p> <p>Co-benefits:</p> <p>Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.</p> <p>Car sharing can be cost-effective and sociable.</p> <p>Involving students in the campaign can provide opportunities for students to gain confidence in speaking and engagement.</p>	<p>Living Streets' 'Swap the whole ride for Park and Stride' is a guide to setting up a formal Park and Stride scheme as well as general guidance on encouraging walking to school.</p> <p>Sustrans provide guidance on car clubs and car sharing.</p> <p>Liftshare is car-share platform and includes advice on COVID-19 safe car sharing.</p> <p>Clean Air Day's 'No idling pack and leaflet' can help you run a no idling campaign with your school community.</p> <p>Take a look at our case study of a school campaigning against idling cars in Greater Manchester.</p>





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Organise school staff CPD sessions relating to Climate and Sustainability  Pathway: Curriculum	Climate change and sustainability is a big topic, and we are not expected to know all the answers. However, whatever your role in a school and stage of your journey you are at, there is more training that you can do.	<p>UK Schools Sustainability network have created an Inset training video for all Secondary school staff and includes thoughts, ideas and tips from over 30 individuals from across the UK - including teachers, students and representatives from various organisations - culminating in a call to action from Lord Jim Knight, former Minister of State for Schools. It is aimed at secondary schools and sixth-form colleges but some sections will be relevant to primary schools and other educational settings. All involved has rallied together to produce this short introduction to the issues of climate and sustainability, resources, what you can do and who is out there to support you.</p> <p>There are also various other free and paid (marked by a £) CPD options on the Transform Our World website.</p>
Help your students to understand the link between industrial meat and deforestation  Pathway: Curriculum	Food and drink production and distribution contributes 20% of UK carbon emissions every year and is the leading cause of deforestation, land use change and biodiversity loss. Therefore, our diet can have a huge impact on the climate.	<p>Greenpeace have developed two resource packs, one aimed for 7-11 year olds and one aimed at 11-14 year olds.</p> <p>The 'Monster in my Kitchen' resource builds on an animation called 'Monster' that Greenpeace created and helps young people to understand the link between industrial meat and deforestation. It offers a range of inspiring activities to help save the forests!</p>
Learn about green careers  Pathway: Curriculum	<p>Support students in exploring the various different types of careers out there and how all jobs can be green no matter what industry you choose to work in.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Students consider how their values can inform their career choices in order to make a difference to their local and global community and how holding and acting upon these values can affect wellbeing. Positive impact on long-term decisions.</p>	<p>The PSHE Association worked in partnership with the Environment Agency to develop their Growing Careers for Positive Change teaching resource for Key Stage 4. It includes 2 lessons and accompanying resources which explore personal values and how these relate to our career choices and the decisions we make about our lives.</p>



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<p>Students to learn from and be inspired by climate innovators from around the world</p> <p> Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>It is key for students to see and understand they are not alone in caring for nature and the environment to encourage and inspire them to take action.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Young people will learn about actions people are taking around the world to tackle the climate crisis.</p>	<p>Share and discuss the case studies, videos and stories from around the world of those who have won the Ashen Climate award.</p>
<p>Explore how your local area connects to the ocean and how litter travels from sources on land to the sea</p> <p> Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>It's estimated that 80% of litter in the ocean comes from inland sources, showing that no matter how far we live from the sea, our actions can affect marine life.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Helps to get students to raise awareness in their community.</p>	<p>Marine Conservation Society provides a lesson plan and worksheets for 7-11 year olds, to help students understand the ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.</p>
<p>Hear from an expert on climate change</p> <p> Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Providing climate change education to students inspires young people to become passionate about learning about our global environment and how we can all come together to help protect it.</p>	<p>Wicked Weather Watch enables children to hear directly from those who have witnessed climate change first hand. Their fantastic volunteers who have either travelled to the Arctic or are experts in climate change, visit schools to tell children about their adventures and experiences.</p>
<p>Students to learn how to save energy in their day to day life</p> <p> Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>When we consume less power, we reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released by factories, conserve the earth's natural resources and protect ecosystems from destruction. By taking steps to reduce our energy intake, we are contributing to a healthier and happier world.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Pre-prepared high quality lesson plan and supporting resources.</p>	<p>Young Citizens provide lesson plans through their subscription. In their Saving Energy lesson, students will learn what is meant by the term energy source. They will consider how they use energy in their lives and be introduced to the basic environmental concerns raised when creating electricity from burning fossil fuels or through nuclear reactions.</p> <p>Students will then be shown how they can help the environment through saving energy in their day to day lives.</p>




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<p>Explore the socio-environmental impacts of how we produce, consume and waste clothes</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>How our clothes are made, where we get them and how we consume them all have impacts on our environment as well as social implications. Students will gather a holistic understanding of the production, consumption and disposal of clothing.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Equips young people with the knowledge and actions needed to shape a more sustainable society.</p>	<p>The Behind the Seams toolkit is aimed at KS3 and KS4 but has been designed to be used as widely as possible. It contains six lesson plans across three themes “production, consumption and waste” and includes worksheets, slideshow presentations and factsheets to support educators to deliver lessons.</p>
<p>Run a Clean Air Day assembly</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Spread awareness throughout your whole school community on the issue of air pollution and how it impacts our health as well as the environment.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group.</p>	<p>For Clean Air Day, Global Action Plan created a collection of school resources to inspire schools to create cleaner air.</p> <p>If you are new to the topic there are learning resources for KS1, 2 & 3 available.</p> <p>If you are keen on involving a whole year group or the entire school, they also provide an assembly pack that includes a PowerPoint and plan that can be used by teachers, volunteers or adapted for students to run an in person or digital assembly on clean air.</p>


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Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Create a rain garden in the school grounds</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Creating a rain garden helps alleviate localised flooding.</p> <p>A rain garden is designed to temporarily channel and contain rain water. Often on a slope it collects water run-off from roofs and hard surfaces into a depression in the ground. Like any garden the depression will be landscaped and planted according to the conditions.</p> <p>1) Talk to senior leaders about your idea.</p> <p>2) Consider the site and, if there is flooding, where the water comes from and runs to. Consider where a hole could be dug deep in order to be filled with materials that allow water to sit around them.</p> <p>3) Bring in expertise to help you consider the need, its position and the costs.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>It keeps the air cooler, provides habitat and can look good.</p>	<p>If you want to see school rain garden there is a local garden at Moorlands Primary in Trafford, whilst the University of Salford have a demonstration rain garden on their campus called the Living Lab. Groundwork, City of Trees and the RHS have experience building rain gardens. Rain gardens can be expensive so it is worth exploring grants and getting quotations.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Do a recycling audit and prioritise three actions</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Doing an audit can help a school cut its waste which helps save money.</p> <p>Doing a recycling audit helps school find out what is already being recycled: this means you can explore whether more of these materials can be either refused, reused or recycled.</p> <p>1) Work with the Eco team to find out what is already being recycled in school.</p> <p>2) Do a waste audit. Are there materials in the bin that could be recycled? Are there materials that could be reused?</p> <p>3) Organise a system for cutting waste materials and, where you can recycle more.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>The school's carbon emissions will be reduced.</p>	<p>Recycle for Greater Manchester's website has information about recycling and sites which schools can visit to learn about where our waste goes. WRAP's website has a lot of background information. MEEN has produced a waste audit resource.</p> <p>This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</p>
<p>Carry out an energy audit at your school</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Sign Up to Energy Sparks for free to access various energy activities for your school, one of which helps you to run an energy audit.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Cost savings from energy bills, reduction in local air pollution from reduction in gas combustion.</p>	<p>Check out the various case studies from schools who have taken part in Energy Sparks.</p>


Your School's Climate Action Plan

St Giles' CE Primary School - 09/07/25

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>School staff member/s to attend LESS CO2 workshops and implement the energy saving actions learnt</p>  <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>The LESS CO2 sustainable schools programme is a free energy efficiency programme available to any UK school for teachers and non-teaching staff.</p> <p>Through a series of 4 half day workshops spread through the year, peer mentoring, expert advice and resources, staff are empowered and equipped to make changes and improvements to their school.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>School staff feel inspired and empowered to reduce the schools CO2 emissions. As well as lowering CO2 emissions, the outcomes will also reduce energy usage and save money on bills.</p>	<p>Scroll down on the schools page of the LESS CO2 website to find out how Thornhill Primary School made big energy savings.</p>

Your School's Climate Action Plan

St Giles' CE Primary School - 09/07/25

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
<p>Teach students about air pollution through the curriculum</p> <p></p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>1) Organise an air quality focused assembly for your school</p> <p>An assembly is a great way to reach the whole school at once with information about air pollution. A class that has been learning about air quality could present their findings to the rest of the school. The assembly could also be used as a moment to launch other initiatives, such as a no-idling campaign.</p> <p>2) Lead action-focused lessons on air pollution with students of all ages</p> <p>Engage your students through activity kits, lesson plans, and tailored PowerPoint presentations.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group. The 'ready to go' resources have been reviewed by teachers and link to the current curriculum, assisting teachers through lesson plans and multi-subject topics.</p>	<p>Clean Air Day's 'assembly pack' provides ideas and materials to help you run an air pollution assembly.</p> <p>Browse our collection of curriculum-linked teaching resources that explore the topic of air pollution for different key stages. These include curriculum-based resources for subjects including PSHE, Geography, Maths, Science, Design, Art and English.</p> <p>Clean Air Day schools resources have been designed specifically for students in Key Stages 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>Healthy Air offer creative and practical teaching activities for Key Stages 1 and 2 with links in to National Curriculum Science, Maths and English.</p> <p>Greenpeace has created an air pollution teaching pack for Key Stage 2</p> <p>Introduce your students to the topic of air pollution through this fun, Lego stop-motion video from Arup.</p> <p>Grandma's Footsteps, and associated learning resources, is a story that encourages children to take note of changes in the environment around them, and to imagine what they want their own future to look like.</p>

Actions you already do

Fundraise for WaterAid

Pathway: Community

Buy sustainably sourced, recycled paper

Pathway: Culture

Run a campaign to stop food waste at lunchtime

Pathway: Culture

Implement traffic restrictions outside the school gate

Pathway: Culture

Investigate your school food procurement

Pathway: Curriculum

Receive a free talk or workshop from WaterAid

Pathway: Curriculum

Create an outdoor classroom

Pathway: Campus

Create a pond or a wetland in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus

Designate a No Mow Zone in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus

Plant trees

Pathway: Campus

Get composting to reduce green waste

Pathway: Campus

Provide more sustainable school dinners

Pathway: Campus

Set heating to the 'right' temperature

Pathway: Campus

Install double or triple glazed windows

Pathway: Campus

Install low energy lighting

Pathway: Campus

Invest in heating controls from radiator thermostats to building solutions

Pathway: Campus

Prevent water wastage by installing timed taps

Pathway: Campus

Improve insulation, pipe lagging and draft proofing

Pathway: Campus

Switch to a renewable energy supply

Pathway: Campus

Take part in RSPB's Wild Challenge

Pathway: Campus

Create your own sustainable water gardens to grow your own fruit and veg

Pathway: Campus