



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Climate Action Plan for Bennerley Fields School

Introduction

This Climate Action Plan outlines a comprehensive approach to reducing the environmental impact of Bennerley Fields School. The plan focuses on four key areas: decarbonisation and energy reduction, climate adaptation and resilience, biodiversity and green infrastructure, and climate education, outdoor learning, and green careers. The goal is to support both the school community and the wider environment by integrating sustainability into daily practices and future development.

Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency:

Objective: To reduce the carbon footprint of the school, improve energy efficiency, and contribute to the national target of net-zero emissions.

ACTION	COST BENEFIT	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION	TIMEFRAME	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	Link to Esteem Mat Sustainability Strategy	PROGRESS TRACK
Energy Audits & Monitoring: - Conduct energy audits at each of the three sites to understand current energy usage. - Install energy monitoring systems to track consumption and identify areas for improvement. Home - Count Your Carbon	Input: No cost Output: No savings	Moderate	Completion date: December 2025	SBM & Link Governor	Partnership To work with 3rd parties to analyse our energy usage.	Completion date: December 2025
Sign up to Let's Go Zero. By joining this campaign, your school confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all schools reach this goal by the end of the decade. UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero	Input: No cost Output: No savings	Easy	Completion date: November 2024	SLT Member	Partnership To work with 3rd parties to develop our thinking, share resources and accelerate our progress – Eco Schools, Lets Go Zero etc.	Completion date: November 2024
Transition to Renewable Energy: Transition each site to renewable electricity sources through green energy contracts or install solar panels or other on-site	Input: Cost of Solar Output: Energy Savings	Difficult	Completion date: December 2030	SBM, Trust & Link Governor		Completion date: December 2030

renewable generation methods if feasible.						
Energy-Efficient Building Modifications: - Over time upgrade insulation, windows, and doors at each site to reduce heating and cooling energy demands. - Introduce energy-efficient lighting (e.g., LED lights) and smart thermostats. - Encourage the use of natural light and passive heating/cooling techniques where possible.	Input: Cost of new energy saving equipment. Output: Energy Saving	Moderate	Completion date: December 2030	SBM & Link Governor		Completion date: December 2030
Decarbonise Transportation: - Promote active travel (walking, cycling) for both staff and students where possible. - Introduce electric vehicle (EV) charging points and transition school vehicles to electric or hybrid models if possible. - Partner with local authorities for improved public transport routes and options for students.	Input: EV implementation Cost Output: No savings	Difficult	Completion date: December 2028	All Staff, Trust & Local Authority		Completion date: December 2028

Sustainable Procurement: Implement a green procurement policy, prioritising eco-friendly materials and energy-efficient equipment.	Input: No cost initially but eco-friendly procurement could be more expensive. Output: Reduction in carbon used	Difficult	Completion date: December 2030	All Staff, Trust & Local Authority		Completion date: December 2030

Climate Adaptation and Resilience: Objective: To prepare the school for the impacts of climate change and build resilience to extreme weather events.						
ACTION	COST BENEFIT	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION	TIMEFRAME	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	LINK TO DfE	PROGRESS TRACK
Heat Mitigation: - Create more useable green spaces across all three sites. - Create shaded outdoor spaces for students and staff to mitigate the effects of heatwaves.	Input: Implementation Cost Output: No savings	Moderate	Completion date: December 2027	SLT & Trust		Completion date: December 2027
Building Resilience: Regularly review and update the school's emergency plans to respond to extreme weather events.	Input: No cost Output: As per above	Easy	Completion date: Ongoing	All Staff		Completion date: Ongoing

Measuring Success: - Increased number of green infrastructure elements (e.g., trees, green roofs). - Successful adaptation to extreme weather events, based on post-event assessments.			Completion date: Ongoing	SLT		Completion date: Ongoing

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure:

Objective:

To enhance biodiversity across all three sites and increase green infrastructure to support ecosystem services.

ACTION	COST BENEFIT	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION	TIMEFRAME	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	LINK TO DfE	PROGRESS TRACK
Greening School Grounds: - Develop school gardens, vegetable patches, and wildlife corridors to enhance biodiversity. - Plant native trees and shrubs to create habitats for birds, insects, and small mammals. - Incorporate wildlife-friendly elements such as bird boxes, bat houses, and insect hotels.	Input: Implementation Cost Output: More wildlife habitats	Easy	Completion date: December 2026	SLT, Outdoor Learning Leads & Site Staff		Completion date: December 2026
School Green Spaces: Use outdoor areas for environmental education, allowing students to engage in	Input: Implementation Cost Output: No savings	Easy	Completion date: September 2025	All Staff		Completion date: September 2025

hands-on learning about ecosystems. Expand green spaces to include wildflowers and nature trails.						
Sustainability: Where possible, introduce green infrastructure such as green walls, rain gardens, and tree canopies to improve air quality, reduce heat, and support local wildlife.	Input: Implementation Cost Output: Wildlife habitats, better air quality & reduced heat	Difficult	Completion date: December 2030	SLT & Trust		Completion date: December 2030
Measuring Success: - Increase in the number of native species identified on school grounds. - Development of at least one biodiversity-focused project at each site. - Expansion of green spaces and habitats for wildlife.	Input: Limited Cost of Implementation Output: As per above.		Completion date: Ongoing	All Staff & students		Completion date: Ongoing

Climate Education, Outdoor Learning and Green careers:

Objective:

To provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to understand climate change, engage in sustainability practices, and prepare for green careers.

ACTION	COST BENEFIT	EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION	TIMEFRAME	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	LINK TO DfE	PROGRESS TRACK
Climate Change Curriculum: Integrate climate change education into the core curriculum, focusing on the science of climate change, its impacts, and mitigation strategies.	Input: No cost Output: No savings	Moderate	Completion date: Ongoing	All Staff		Completion date: Ongoing
Outdoor Learning: - Create outdoor classrooms and experiential learning opportunities, such as nature walks, field studies, and sustainability-themed projects. - Encourage student-led environmental projects that address local or global climate challenges (e.g., a plastic-free initiative, recycling program, or community garden).	Input: Implementation Cost Output: More recycling initiatives	Moderate	Completion date: Ongoing	All Staff		Completion date: Ongoing
Sustainability and Green Careers Workshops: Organise career talks, internships, and workshops	Input: No cost Output: No savings	Moderate	Completion date: December 2028	Careers Lead		Completion date: Ongoing

with professionals from sustainable industries (renewable energy, conservation, sustainable agriculture, etc.). Encourage students to explore opportunities in green industries by highlighting career pathways in sustainability and environmental sciences.						
Measuring Success: - Increased student participation in outdoor learning and climate-related activities. - Number of students pursuing green career paths or further education in environmental studies.	Input: No cost Output: As per above		Completion date: Ongoing			Completion date: Ongoing

Conclusion

This Climate Action Plan will be a living document that evolves with the needs of the school and the community. By taking immediate action across decarbonisation, climate adaptation, biodiversity, and education, the school can significantly reduce its environmental impact, support student learning, and contribute to the wider community's climate resilience. With commitment and continuous effort, the school can lead by example in creating a sustainable and green future.