



QUEENSMEAD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Climate and Sustainability Plan

2026-28

Aims of this plan:

Queensmead Primary Academy is committed to educating our pupils about environmental concerns and the importance of living sustainably. Our commitment to sustainability, ecology and the environment is represented in the partnerships we have with organisations and the accreditations they have given us- these include:

Food for Life – Soil Association
Eco Schools – Distinction
RHS Level 5 Gardening School
Green Tree School – Gold Award

National Education Park
Let's Go Zero

Our School , Our World Project
National Energy Action

Through our curriculum and myriad of wider opportunities in our co- curriculum and additional provision, pupils explore not just their role in helping the environment but in how they can shape their community locally, nationally and the world they will grow up in. Pupils need to be made aware of the impact of climate change through knowledge-rich education. They must also be given the hope that they can be agents of change, through hands-on activity and, as they progress, through guidance and programmes allowing them to pursue a green career pathway in their chosen field.

Queensmead Primary Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust. As a Trust there is central provision for services which support our Academy including operational and building management, procurement and catering. Many of the operational decisions are taken at Central Team level.

This Climate Action Plan reflects Queensmead Academy's current, site specific actions as well as actions we aim to implement moving forward.

Our main climate change team consists of:

Staff members: • The Principal • Geography Subject Lead • Premises Officer • Office Manager	Pupil groups: • Eco Warriors • Superbloom team • Eventerprise • Creativity Council • Rights Respecting School Council • Climate Council
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This plan is split into two sections:

Part 1: Commitment to continue with the actions we are already taking
Part 2: Action Plan for change

Part 1

	DfE	Link Actions	Responsibility
Curriculum			
1	Climate education and green careers	We have a whole school approach which incorporates climate change into the curriculum and school life.	Curriculum Lead Teachers

2	Climate education and green careers	We continue to seek out good practice to be inspired and share good practice with other education settings on learning about climate change.	Curriculum Lead Principal
3	Climate education and green careers	Through lessons, the curriculum plan and co-curriculum opportunities, we encourage behavioural change by the students to help the environment.	Curriculum Lead SLT
4	Climate education and green careers	The QPA Curriculum is designed to teach young people about nature in their local area, for example different types of land and habitats, how they are managed, flora and fauna and weather patterns.	Curriculum Lead SLT
5	Climate education and green careers	Teach students about how to reduce/eliminate single-use plastics at home as well as other actionable easy impact responses	Curriculum Lead SLT
6	Climate education and green careers	Local partnerships with Buzzing Roots charity / Tiny Forests to deliver sessions on sustainability and biodiversity	Curriculum Lead SLT
Waste			
1	Decarbonisation	Minimise paper use e.g. through 'follow me' printing, reminders to only print when necessary, photocopier default set to print on both sides. Minimise printing of worksheets	SLT Office admin
2	Decarbonisation	Clear recycling systems in place: clear expectations on what can be recycled. Separate recycling bins, clearly labelled. Recycling separated and pupils and staff educated about the value of resources.	SLT Premises/Eco Warriors
3	Decarbonisation	Food waste separated in the dining room to reduce waste	Eco Warriors
4	Decarbonisation	Pre-loved uniform giveaway 'shop' available to parents	Behaviour Mentor
5	Decarbonisation	Paperless communication with parents wherever possible	Office admin

6	Decarbonisation	Records Management system in place to reduce the amount of information saved on network drives and on the cloud.	Office admin
7	Biodiversity	Composting on site for pupils' snack waste. Food waste separated in each class – Eco Warriors collect for composting.	Eco Warriors/Premises
8	Biodiversity	Regular litter picks completed around school site by pupils / green team.	Eco Warriors /Premises
9	Decarbonisation	Electronic devices are recycled via a Trust -wide scheme	Principal
Food			
1	Decarbonisation	Catering team have a commitment to reduce single use plastic and food waste.	Chef manager
2	Climate education and green careers	Pupils are educated about the impact of food waste on the climate and are encouraged to take action in school and at home.	Curriculum Lead/ teachers
3	Climate education and green careers	Promote more vegetarian options and reduce the number of meat options / days. The menu includes 2 meat free days.	Trust catering
4	Biodiversity	Pupils grow food in the Edible Playground which is then used in cooking lessons / forest school cooking	Forest School Lead
5	Decarbonisation	Menus are planned in advance to be appealing and are pre-ordered by parents in advance to reduce wastage	Trust catering Admin staff
6	Climate education and green careers	Lunch time is managed to reduce queuing time: ensure all pupils are given time to eat/ play to reduce food waste due to pupils feeling they need to rush to get outside.	Midday manager Chef manager
7	Decarbonisation	Kitchen waste is composted wherever possible	Chef manager

Air Quality			
1	Climate education and green careers	Children are encouraged to come to school on foot, bike, scooter to reduce pollution near school. There are three large bike racks/ scooter stores	Principal/ Premises
2	Climate education and green careers	Involvement in the WOW Walk to School Project with Living Streets charity	Class teachers
3	Biodiversity	The grounds are planted with a range of trees, flowers and shrubs to improve air quality.	Premises Superbloom team
4	Climate education and green careers	Students are educated about air pollution and how they can reduce their own exposure to pollution and how they can reduce their contribution to it.	Curriculum lead Teachers
5	Climate education and green careers	Students take part in science activities to monitor air quality levels on the school site and nearby areas	Curriculum lead Teachers
6	Adaptation and resilience	Air quality monitors around the school show the air quality is good – this is monitored regularly	Premises / Eco Warriors
7	Adaptation and resilience	Window maintenance plan in place to help air circulate better, improving student health and reducing their exposure to air pollution	Premises
Travel			
1	Decarbonisation	Three bike racks in place to encourage walking to school - one at the front of the school for visitors.	Premises
2	Decarbonisation	Involvement in the WOW Walk to School Project with Living Streets charity – pupils earn badges as a reward for walking to school	Class teachers
3	Decarbonisation	Bikeability training offered to all pupils in KS2.	Curriculum Lead

4	Decarbonisation	Parents/Carers of pupils in upper key stage 2 are encouraged to allow their children to be responsible for getting themselves to and from school- reduce parental travel.	SLT Admin staff
Reducing Energy			
1	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders to staff to switch off all lights, appliances/screens and plugs when not in use	SLT/ Premises
2	Decarbonisation	Energy costs are monitored monthly and concerns investigated – including regular use of energy viewer to ensure reduction in energy, when building not in use.	SLT/ Premises Trust operations team
3	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers are used to monitor temperature levels- underfloor heating used – temperatures monitored daily to reduce unnecessary heating	SLT/ Premises Trust operations team
4	Decarbonisation	Regular reminders for windows and doors to be kept closed when the heating is on ensure maximum efficiency of insulation and warmth.	SLT/ Premises Trust operations team
5	Decarbonisation	All lighting is set on responsive timer switches to reduce usage. LED lighting installed across the site	Premises Trust operations team
6	Decarbonisation	Use and refer regularly to the ESCC Energy Team energy checklist and Energy Saving Guide, Premises and Forest School lead have both completed carbon literacy training	Premises/ Forest School Trust operations team
7	Decarbonisation	Partnership work with the NEA – National Energy Action charity – workshops for pupils and parents	SLT/ Class teachers
Outdoor Space			

1	Biodiversity	Green spaces utilised well across the school including regular forest school and/or outdoor learning sessions for every pupil	Curriculum lead Teachers
2	Biodiversity	Planting of native trees, shrubs and other plants around the school perimeter to capture more carbon with natural solutions.	Eco Warriors/ Superbloom/ Premises
3	Biodiversity	Birdbaths, feeders, bird houses, bug hotels, bee hotels, ponds all installed to support local wildlife.	Eco Warriors/ Superbloom/ Premises
4	Climate education and green careers	Students are involved in looking after our green spaces	Eco Warriors/ Superbloom/ Premises
5	Climate education and green careers	Gardening and Forest School clubs are offered throughout the year	Superbloom/ Forest School
6	Biodiversity	Wild patches left and wild-flower areas around the site	Premises
7	Biodiversity	Where possible we do not use any chemicals within our outside space to help wildlife. We work closely with our grounds maintenance team to find alternatives to chemicals	Eco Warriors/ Superbloom/ Premises
Water			
1	Climate education and green careers	Curriculum plans include learning about local water scarcity and hazard risks to encourage a culture of saving, rather than wasting water and to encourage creative ideas for how water can be saved in school and at home	Curriculum lead Teachers
2	Climate Education and Green Careers	Findings and progress about water conservation is shared with the school community, to involve staff, pupils and parents by raising awareness we aim to get all groups on board with adopting water saving habits	Curriculum lead Teachers
3	Adaption and Resilience	Water butts used around the site to collect grey water which is then used to water allotments and plants.	Eco Warriors/ Superbloom/ Premises

4	Decarbonisation	Grey water used for all toilets on site	Premises
5	Climate Education and Green Careers	Partnerships with Severn Trent education programmes – school visits and assemblies to encourage pupils to cascade information to parents	Principal
Procurement			
1	Decarbonisation	Resources are bought with a 'just in time' mindset ensuring a reduction in over ordering and reducing waste.	Principal / Admin/ Finance
2	Decarbonisation	Consideration is given to travel emissions in the supply chain and where possible local suppliers are used	Principal / Admin/ Finance/ Premises
3	Decarbonisation	Items no longer in use are recycled / donated/ repurposed wherever possible	Eco Warriors

Part 2

Action Plan for change

The following actions have been identified as being a priority for 2026-2028

Action	Dfe Link	Target/ measure	Timescale / Deadline	Responsibility	Evaluation/result of action
Curriculum					

1.Find additional ways to incorporate sustainability into the curriculum: target range of subjects (PE, art,history etc)	Climate education and green careers	Evidence of curriculum links across subjects i.e. an art project showing the impact of climate change	Evidence in planning for September 26 onwards	Curriculum Leads Class teachers	
2. Increase integration of climate change into all subjects.	Climate education and green careers	Clear evidence of subject integration and regular learning of climate change	Evidence in planning for September 26 onwards	Curriculum Leads Class teachers	
3. Promoting green careers to pupils	Climate education and green careers	Ensuring at least 2 x green careers take part in the annual careers week	June 27	Careers Lead	
Waste					
1. Encourage students and staff to recycle batteries.	Decarbonisation	Recycle station at school for staff and parents	September 26	Premises	
2. Eco warriors to create climate change star rating for each room and monitor rooms	Climate education and green careers	Each room has a star rating against key climate change areas including energy use / switch off	March 2027	Eco Warriors/ Premises	
3. Do a waste audit of	Decarbonisation	Audit created feeding into a waste reduction plan	March 2027	Eco Warriors/ Premises	

classrooms, staff room, dining hall and the school office.					
4. Encourage parents to send packed lunches with minimal packaging -pupils take waste home with them	Decarbonisation	Reduce wastage collection from site	November/ December 26	Principal Premises	
5. Seek replacements for single use- plastics to used during lunch service in catering	Decarbonisation	No single-use plastics to be used during lunch service	November/ December 26	Principal Chef manager	
Food					
1.Encourage students and staff to bring plastic- free packed lunches.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Reward system in place Reduction in waste	December 26	RRSchool Council Principal	
2.Further develop curriculum to include activities to calculate carbon costs ie. Carbon costs of pizzas in Y3 DT pizza-making project.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Pupils have more awareness of their own carbon footprint to inform choices	September 26	Curriculum lead Class teachers	
Air quality					

1.Encourage children to choose walking and cycling routes to school that are safer, and with less traffic and pollution	Climate Education and Green Careers	More parents walking or using the Leisure Centre car park	September 2026	RRSchool Council Eco Warriors Principal	
2.Research 'Walk to School' programmes – contact and join programme. Use resources to inspire changes to travel	Climate Education and Green Careers	More pupils walking to school	September 2026	RRSchool Council Eco Warriors Principal	
3.Students create road signs with air pollution information to display around the school.	ClimateEducation and Green Careers	Poster competition in school – best posters displayed around school, noticeboard, website	June 2027	RRSchool Council Eco Warriors Principal	
Travel					
1.Complete the school census 'mode of travel' question to provide a baseline of mode of travel to school data.	ClimateEducation and Green Careers	Census completed to create a baseline to measure against to set targets for improvement.	September 26	RRSchool Council Eco Warriors Principal	
2.Encourage staff and pupils to change the way they travel to school	ClimateEducation and Green Careers	Walk to School programme has an impact – increase in number of pupils walking to school	September 2026	RRSchool Council Eco Warriors Principal	

3.Reducing travel emissions on school trips	Decarbonisation	Consider transport modes for trips – add to trip checklist	September 2026	Principal OVC	
Energy					
1.Eco warriors to create climate change star rating for each room and monitor rooms	Climate education and green careers	Each room has a star rating against key climate change areas including energy use / switch off	September 26	Eco Warriors Principal Premises	
2.Heating controls to be used to limit/ reduce timings and temperature across school	Decarbonisation	Room thermometers used to monitor room temperatures throughout the day	October 26	Eco Warriors Principal Premises	
3.Measure, record and publicise savings.	Decarbonisation	Baseline measure taken of energy use. Encourage switch off practice as above. Publicise our savings	September 27	Eco Warriors Principal	
Outdoor Space					
1.Re-imagine the sensory garden.Create 'quiet spaces' in the playground to support mental health	Adaption and Resilience	Sensory gardens in place successfully planted	June 27	Superbloom Forest Lead Premises	

plant with a wide range of plants that are pollinators and give scent					
2.Introduce additional areas for rest and relaxation in the shade.	Adaption and Resilience	Hammock garden to be created	June 27	Premises Superbloom	
Water					
1.Encourage staff, parents and students to use refillable water bottles / coffee cups and educate them to pour leftover water onto the garden.	Climate Education and Green Careers	Less disposables being used in school. Leftover water being re-used	June 27	Premises RRSchool Council	
Procurement					
1.Review site specific common purchases to Identify any sustainable alternatives	Decarbonisation	Find alternative suppliers/ assess current suppliers' sustainability credibility.	June 27	Premises Office admin	
Ask regular suppliers if they have a carbon reduction plan and Net Zero Target.	Decarbonisation	Plans received from regular suppliers and contractors	June 27	Premises Office admin	

Once purchases have reached end of life, is there an alternative use? Consider take back schemes/ recycling schemes/ donation etc	Decarbonisation	Reduction in waste / skip use More items recycled/repurposed	June 27	All staff.	
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Plan created August 26

To be reviewed August 27