



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Updated by	Richard Daniels
Updated when	June 2026
Next Review Date	September 2027

Focus areas for the summer term 2026

Vision

Riverside Primary School and Nursery is committed to nurturing environmentally responsible pupils and reducing our environmental impact. By working together as a school and community, we aim to become a model of sustainable practice — fostering stewardship of the Earth through learning, action, and local collaboration.

1. Decarbonization & Energy

Goals: Reduce the school's carbon footprint, lower energy costs, and encourage climate-conscious behaviours among pupils and staff.

Actions:

"Switch Off" Campaign:

Create pupil-led "Eco Monitors" to check that lights, screens, and classroom appliances are switched off when not in use. - RD

Display reminder posters designed by pupils around classrooms and corridors. One for each classroom - RD

Heating and Energy Efficiency:

Review and optimise heating schedules to avoid use during unoccupied periods. -NC

Ensure thermostats are appropriately set and radiators not blocked by furniture. - RJ

Investigate long-term energy improvements such as LED lighting and improved insulation.

Waste Reduction:

Introduce clear recycling points for paper, plastic, and food waste.

Launch a "Waste-Free Wednesday" initiative to reduce single-use packaging in packed lunches.

Work with suppliers to minimise packaging and encourage reusable containers. Introduce more sustainable resources into classrooms – Whiteboard pencils instead of pens and refillable glue sticks to be trialled - NC

Monitoring & Evaluation:

Energy and waste audits conducted termly by staff and Eco Committee pupils, with results displayed on the school's "Green Board."

2. Biodiversity & Outdoor Learning

Goals: Enhance biodiversity on school grounds, provide hands-on environmental learning, and connect pupils with nature.

Actions:

School Nature Zone:

Develop our wildlife zone on the field and in wilderness area with native plants, bird feeders, and bug hotels with the support of the gardening club - SB

Outdoor Learning:

Organise more regular half-term nature days linked to the curriculum.

Monitoring & Evaluation:

3. Curriculum & Skills

Goals: Embed climate education and sustainability within the curriculum, helping pupils develop knowledge, empathy, and agency.

Actions:

Integrate climate themes across subjects:

Science: Explore renewable energy, life cycles, and habitats.

Geography: Study local and global environmental changes.

Maths: Analyse school energy-use data and graph reductions.

English: Write persuasive letters or stories about protecting the planet.

Develop “Sustainability Skills” through project-based learning — for example, designing posters for an energy-saving campaign or creating eco-inventions.

Invite local experts, environmental artists, or farmers for workshops.

Celebrate Earth Day and Switch Off Fortnight with themed assemblies and creative showcases.

Monitoring & Evaluation:

Termly review by staff of how environmental themes are integrated across year groups and celebration of pupil-led sustainability projects in newsletters.

4. Community Involvement

Goals: Build strong connections with the wider Maidenhead community to encourage shared climate responsibility and collective impact.

Actions:

Active Travel:

Promote “Walk to School Week” each term and encourage walking to school as much as possible throughout the year.

Collaborate with local councils on safe walking/cycling routes.

Parent Engagement:

Run community litter picks involving families and local residents.

Monitoring & Evaluation:

Parent surveys on engagement and active travel participation; Eco Committee to track attendance and outcomes of community events.

Governance & Review

Leadership: Headteacher and Eco Coordinator oversee delivery, supported by the School Council's Eco Committee.

Review Cycle: Annual assessment each summer, with updated targets published on the school website.

Indicators of Success:

Reduction in energy use and waste.

Increased biodiversity on school grounds.

Pupil understanding of sustainability concepts.

Positive community participation rates.