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Griffin Park Primary School – Climate Action Plan



In line with the Department for Education's (DfE) requirements, our plan includes at least one action from these four key areas:

1. Decarbonisation
2. Biodiversity
3. Adaptation and Resilience
4. Climate education and Green Careers Goals

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5.

Decarbonisation						
Our Vision <i>(how can you reduce emissions and support students to be part of the transition to net zero?):</i> Griffin Park Primary School is committed to achieving a low-carbon future by reducing greenhouse gas emissions across all operations, integrating renewable energy solutions, and fostering a culture of sustainability through education and community engagement."						
Action	Link to Improvement Plan	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Timescale	Information and/or resources required	Target/ Measure	Progress (Update at regular review points)
Take part in a switch off campaign Take part in a Switch-Off campaign, e.g. Switch-Off Fortnight . Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools).	Our school consistently promotes the extensive personal development of pupils through our sustainability work. The school goes beyond the expected, so that pupils have access to a wide, rich set of experiences such as running our Energy campaigns. Opportunities for pupils to develop their talents and interests are of exceptional quality.	Governors Teachers/TAs School Council Pupils	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: https://jointhepod.org/campaigns/sof25	Reviewing Energy Usage	
Monitor energy use on a regular basis through platforms such as Energy Sparks Sign up to Energy Sparks . This online energy-monitoring platform enables schools to visualise their energy usage. Energy Sparks provides student-friendly dashboards and a competitive element between signed-up schools to reduce their consumption and thus make great savings.		SBM Site Supervisor SLT	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: https://energysparks.uk/product	Reviewing Energy Usage	
Review your BMS/BEMS controls for the evenings, weekends and school holidays,		Site Supervisor	Start date:		Reviewing Energy Usage	

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when the building may be out of use Setting appropriate evening and holiday settings on your BMS can improve savings by ensuring that the non-essential building systems are shut down or reduced to minimum when unoccupied.		SBM	September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:			
Implement a power down strategy for electric devices and appliances e.g. sleep settings on computers and projectors and turning off scanners/ printers overnight Implement power-down strategies across the school, e.g. sleep settings on laptops, smart-boards and screens.		IT Technician Head Teacher	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	Reviewing Energy Usage		
Investigate the potential for solar panels Investigate solar providers: aim to compare quotes from at least 3 different providers to check you are getting value for money and pricing that works well for you. Providers we recommend checking with: Solar for Schools & Eden Sustainable. (Note: There is a Let's Go Guide for this action)		Headteacher Governors SBM	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	Reviewing Energy Usage		
Include sustainability as part of your criteria for procurement This approach involves purchasing products that were designed and produced ethically and sustainably, made from materials that can be recycled or managed sustainably as waste. This action can follow the development of a sustainable procurement policy		Headteacher Governors SBM	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027		Sustainability becomes an intrinsic part of school culture		

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Factor in energy efficiency when buying new equipment such as ovens, fridges, kettles etc. (using efficiency ratings to guide purchases) Ensure that cost is balanced against the efficiency rating of electrical appliances to compensate upfront cost with running cost and longevity, e.g. choosing only appliances that are the highest efficiency rating for that product.		Headteacher Governors SBM	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027		Sustainability becomes an intrinsic part of school culture	
Explore or expand paperless platforms/ printing software that can reduce paper consumption Explore paperless platforms that can reduce paper consumption e.g. Showbie		Headteacher SBM IT Lead	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027		A reduction in the use of paper and the need for recycling	
Education around recycling as part of assemblies or other whole school opportunities Deliver assembly/ information to students regarding what is to be put in each bin. Young Climate Warriors provide slides/ assemblies Do a waste audit and encourage students to take part in the whole process. Wastebusters have a helpful step-by-step guide for this.		Deputy Head (Curriculum Lead)	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027		Children and stakeholders become more literate in climate issues	

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Adaptation and Resilience

Our Vision (how can you adapt your buildings and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change?):

We are owned by the Council, which is responsible for adapting our building in line with its decarbonisation plan for council assets, as set out in the Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan. Our vision is to independently secure funding and build strong partnerships that enable us to deliver schemes which reduce heat stress and flood risk, while improving air quality and the sustainable management of resources.

Action	Link to Improvement Plan	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Timescale	Information and/or resources required	Target/ Measure	Progress (Update at regular review points)
Determine the climate vulnerabilities and associated risks faced by Griffin's Park Primary School.		Headteacher Climate Lead	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: What will climate change look like in your area? - BBC News	Rank risks and prioritise influenceable actions	
Monitor and regulate classroom and office area temperatures by installing thermometers in each room and thermos-regulative curtains/blinds to maintain cool atmosphere in summers and warm atmosphere in winter		Site Supervisor	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: Energy Sparks Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub	Ensure energy and water resources are not wasted	
Train staff to identify and react appropriately to dangerous heat and cold atmospheres		Headteacher Climate lead	Start date: September 2026	Useful links: UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero	Carry every stakeholder; teachers included	

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		Climate ambassador	Review Date: June 2027		ensuring a whole system approach	
Campaign for the planting of trees around play areas to provide shade during heatwaves		LO Headteacher Climate Lead	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: Mitigating urban overheating in schools - Lets Go Zero	Ensure that we don't deny play during heatwaves but encourage shade to reduce external temperature	
Provide more drinking water points and encourage staff and students to come to school with refillable water bottles		Headteacher Climate Lead Staff	S Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links: The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012	Hydration in heat waves will reduce impact on staff and student health	
Ensure replacement taps in toilets are motioned censored and toilet flush systems are water efficient		Site Supervisor	As and when	The Pod Water Week PowerPoint Presentation	Reduce water consumption by 5%	
Encourage our facility manager to upgrade our Building Energy Management System to modern Internet of Things systems that provide more human comfort and manage resources better		Site Supervisor	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Energy efficiency: guidance for the school and further education college estate - GOV.UK BMS (Building Management System) optimisation Energy Sparks	Reduce energy consumption by better managing energy using the fabric first approach and technology adoption	

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Biodiversity						
Our Vision (<i>how can you enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access to, and connection with, nature?</i>): Through our already established Forest School and with a renewed focus on biodiversity, we are encouraging our pupils to be more environmentally aware in the future and fostering connections with nature.						
Action	Link to Improvement Plan	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Timescale	Information and/or resources required	Target/ Measure	Progress (Update at regular review points)
Increase planting of available areas Identify areas in your school grounds which could accommodate planting. This could be natural planting such as hedgerows, trees and wildflower meadows or native plants in borders, planters or pots. Consider the best placement of this planting for accessibility and maintenance.		Climate Lead Mrs Otter	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	A greater number of trees and plants will increase biodiversity	
Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys Conduct wildlife surveys and habitat mapping using the NENP resources or take part in activities such as the Big Birdwatch with the RSPB.		Climate Lead Class Teachers	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	Pupils will be able to monitor the biodiversity in the school grounds	
Enrol with The Nature Park (NENP) The NENP aims to embed nature-based learning in the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve		Climate Lead	Start date: September 2026	Useful links:	Resources will be available for staff and pupils to learn about biodiversity.	

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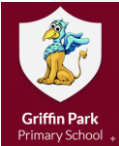
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their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.			Review Date: June 2027			
Climate Education and Green Skills						
Our Vision (<i>how can you prepare students for a world impacted by climate change through education & practice?</i>): Through an informed awareness of our goals and the progress we are making against them, we are keeping our students informed about the importance of energy efficiency in terms of practicality and a raised environmental awareness.						
Action	Link to Improvement Plan	Responsibility and Key Stakeholders	Timescale	Information and/or resources required	Target/ Measure	Progress (Update at regular review points)
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change including SLT, site manager, teachers, and PTA. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead'		Climate Lead Headteacher Governors Staff	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	A sustainability working group will action change through the school	
Add sustainability goals/ projects/ successes to school website Celebrate your achievements and engage your community in your climate action plans by adding a dedicated sustainability page to your school website. You can also include links to Let's Go Zero and other organisations you are engaging with. Update it with photos or student-written blogs if you can.		Headteacher	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	Our goals will be shared with stakeholders and the wider community.	

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Appoint a sustainability focused Governor Appoint a link governor who will work directly with the Sustainability Lead and working group to deliver the Climate Action Plan.		Governors	Start date: September 2026 Review Date: June 2027	Useful links:	Governors will have oversight of the actions.	
Seek Support from A Climate Ambassador Liaise with a local climate ambassador – Olu Johnson – to write the climate action plan and develop strategies in each of the 4 key areas. Climate ambassador to deliver training to staff and pupils to help them become carbon literate.		Headteacher	Start: January 2026 Review July 2026	Useful links:	The school will be supported to meet its climate goals.	