



Climate Action Plan

Summer 2026 – Summer 2027



Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency:

Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient

Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign - [Let's Go Zero](#)

- By joining this campaign, the 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.

Calculate the baseline carbon emissions for the school using the Carbon Calculator: [Count Your carbon](#)

- This activity requires the gathering of large amounts of data which we are working on and hope to have a calculation later in the year (complete by 2027).

Tackling energy use across the school

- We are signed up to the [Energy Sparks](#) programme where students and staff can monitor the energy use at the school in granular detail and can take part in various educational activities to reduce energy consumption. These include events such as 'Switch off' fortnight, individual classroom temperature monitoring and 'Power Down Fridays' at the end of term.
- We are working with B&HCC Energy & Water Team and our PFI partners to try and find low carbon alternatives when replacing boilers.
- We have surveyed the roofs for future solar PV installation once the PFI contract ends in 2028.

Transport

- We have a Toyota electric minibus on loan and have installed 1 x EV charger.
- Investigating option to provide 5/6 EV chargers for staff/visitors.
- Annual travel survey of students. Currently 62% walk to school, which is way above national average. Students and visitors are encouraged to walk or use other low carbon forms of transport.

Food

- Continue to develop a range of meat-free food options beyond the Meat Free Mondays in the canteen using advice from: [PRO VEG](#)
- We are going to move from gas powered ovens/hobs to electric (INVARIO).
- School allotment - all Year 7 students grow potatoes; other students are involved in growing other food which is used from time to time in the canteen.
- Phase out all single-use plastic containers from the canteen.

Procurement

- Our utilities are purchased through BHCC.
- We try to consider the sustainability of products when purchasing – this is an area we are reviewing. It was a criterion when selecting our school uniform.

Waste

- We have recycling bins in all classrooms; the majority of our paper and cardboard is recycled.
- We now have food waste bins around the school including all the department staff rooms.
- The canteen serves food on compostable plates with wooden cutlery – our next challenge is to find a food composting company that will take vegware.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience:

Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages

Water

- Taps in student toilets are now sensor operated so cannot be left running.
- We are having a water audit from Southern Water to identify areas where we can build resilience into the system.

Flooding

- We have planted many thousands of trees across the school grounds which makes a significant impact on the amount of surface water after heavy rain.
- We leave the edge of the playing field un-mowed which allows infiltration of the water rather than entering the drain and also reduces mud run off that can block drains.
- Working with B&HCC we have identified locations for rain gardens and areas to improve drainage.

Overheating

- Due to an extensive programme of tree planting since 2000, the school site has a significant amount of tree cover which will continue to develop in the future as the trees establish. This is already providing significant shade and cooling to the site.
- We have reflective films on most south facing windows to reduce heating.

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure:

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond

Nature

- We have been re-wilding the school grounds since 2000, creating a mosaic of wildlife habitats. This includes the nationally acclaimed Butterfly Haven - 3500 m² chalk grassland annually grazed by Sussex Wildlife Trust sheep along with other butterfly banks around the site.
- Large wildlife pond with decking around it to allow it to be used for educational purposes.
- An area of woodland along Stringer Way is managed with over 40 hazel stools coppiced in rotation improving biodiversity. Annual programme of planting native wildflower bulbs. We have un-managed woodland which has a high canopy providing a comparative woodland to study.

Climate Education, Green Skills and Green careers:

Ensuring the education we provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that our teaching staff feel supported to offer this

Curriculum

- Following OCOW curriculum programme including key conceptual milestones and greening of all curriculum areas.
- Dedicated Environmental Science course for Year 7 students.
- We have Woodland Working Days, Groundforce Club and Climate Ambassador Programme, part of BHCC Secondary Schools for a Sustainable Future programme.
- A range of intervention activities including Forest Schools with students using the wildlife areas and school allotment.
- Green careers feature in Geography and Science lessons.