Climate Action Plan

Silverdale Primary School

1 year plan Autumn 2 2025 – 2026

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Progress Key
Not Started
In Progress
Stalled
Complete

Your school's carbon baseline: 484.56 tCO_2e **Calculation:** November 2025

Climate Action Plan history

★ = high carbon reduction actions

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEP		
ACTION	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting and gives you a baseline against which to measure progress, year on year. 	Operational area	Emissions area	Scope	t CO_2e*	%**
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Energy, Waste & Water	Fuel	1	64.9	18%
	Electricity	2	24.2	7%
	Waste	3	0.1	0%
	Water	3	0.9	<1%
Transport	School vehicles	1	0	0%
	School trips	3	3.9	1%
	Student commuting	3	48.1	13%
	Staff commuting	3	43.7	12%
Food	Food	3	130	35%
Purchasing & Uniform	Purchasing	3	53.6	15%
	Uniform ***	Out-of-scope	115.1	n/a | 	Count Your Carbon is a free, full-scope carbon footprint calculator, built for - and in collaboration with - nurseries, schools and colleges. It supports educational settings to calculate, understand, reduce and track carbon emissions. Aligned with the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, Count Your Carbon offers tools and guidance to help educational settings calculate their carbon footprint, reviewing your data and producing a report which will equip you with the information you need to help inform your Climate Action Plan. **Calculating your carbon footprint is a great first step on your decarbonisation journey.** It will help you baseline your current emissions and set targets to reduce this over time. Let's Go Zero can help support you with understanding how to collect the data you need for the tool, so please reach out if you require further support.	**Complete**

Overall projected carbon savings: TBC%

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

GETTING STARTED				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign 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.	**Start: N/A** **Review: N/A**	**HT**	Signed up 23/09/2025	
Add sustainability plans, projects and successes to your school website and share through wider communications Celebrate your school's climate action on your website, in newsletters, social media, local press, and events to showcase your successes and involve the wider community. Use the Let's Go Zero comms pack to do this.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Create Communications Materials – Use assemblies, newsletters, noticeboards and social media to share achievements Collect Evidence – gather photos, data, and reports on energy savings, biodiversity improvements, and student project to support Sustainability - The Misbourne	
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead' and where possible provide PPA time for this role.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT** **SBM** **Site Manager** **Eco Lead** **Forest School Lead**		

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

ENERGY – BUILDINGS AND RETROFIT				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Install a smart meter Contact your energy and/or water supplier to get a smart meter installed. This is an important first step to get data to track consumption and is needed before you can sign up to energy usage analytics platforms, e.g. Energy Sparks.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	If you don't already have these in place for electricity and gas, get some installed so you can use a platform like energy sparks to involve pupils and staff in energy monitoring and reduction	
★ **Optimise your BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set** 18ºC is the general recommendation for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43ºC (stored at 60ºC). Experiment with your heating schedule while maintaining comfort - running it one hour less per day or reducing temperatures by 1 degree can cut annual heating costs by 5–10%, according to the DfE.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**		
Install LED lighting Replace any remaining older lighting fixtures with LEDs and install motion sensors in areas that see only intermittent use. The DfE suggests LED installation can reduce energy consumption from lighting by over 84%.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Audit all light fittings across classrooms, corridors, and shared spaces to identify which bulbs need replacing. Purchase and install LED bulbs gradually or in bulk, starting with the most-used areas to maximise savings.	

ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Incentivise students to address energy usage Proactively engage and empower the student body to take a lead in promoting and implementing energy efficient behaviour changes to help save costs, reduce emissions, and make their setting more sustainable. Incentivise engagement through inter-class competitions and/or eco awards, or by electing school energy champions. LASER Energy have a School Energy Action Hub filled with free energy-saving resources for primary and secondary school pupils.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Plan Campaign Materials – Create posters, signs, and digital reminders about switching off lights, computers, and other devices. Set Up Monitoring Tools – Install thermometers or temperature sensors in each classroom. Collect Data Regularly – Record temperatures at different times and compare across rooms.	
Monitor energy use on a regular basis through dedicated platforms Use an energy monitoring platform (e.g. Energy Sparks) to visualise and understand your energy usage. Use the data to look for patterns in day-to-day energy consumption and assess your energy baseload (how much energy you use continually). Armed with this information, you can decide where and when is best to target energy savings. If you are already sending your energy data to your provider, get in touch with them and ask them for access.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Review Recommendation Report from DEC to understand school' energy efficiency Energy-walkabout-guide_Guide.pdf (southwarkclimatecollective.co.uk) Monitor Impact – Track heating bills and classroom comfort levels to measure energy savings and share results with the school community Analyse and Act – Use data to adjust heating, open windows, or improve insulation to reduce energy use.	
Access support from your local Net Zero Hub Regional Net Zero Hubs across England support schools with improving capacity and capability on the journey to reaching net zero. School Business Managers, Operational and Estates staff can access free advice and guidance on a variety of decarbonisation projects, including acquiring Heat Decarbonisation Plans, exploring solar potential and preparing for upcoming governmental grants**.**	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Highly recommend this if you want to install solar	

FOOD				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Grow food for use in food tech classes or by pupils/community Grow food on site for pupils to use in their food tech classes to engage them with how food reaches their plates. Alternatively, consider having a market-style stall to sell or donate your food produce to the wider school community.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Plan the Garden – Select crops suitable for the season and school grounds, including pollinator-friendly plants. Plant and Maintain – Involve pupils in planting, watering, and caring for the crops. Harvest and Learn – Use produce in lessons or the school kitchen, teaching pupils about sustainable food and biodiversity.	

WASTE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Run waste/plastic reduction initiatives or campaigns with pupils and staff Take school-wide action to reduce waste. Run an initiative yourself, or engage with a local or national campaign. For example, you could work to become a Plastic Free School with Surfers Against Sewage using their free resources.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**Eco Team lead**	Educate & Promote – Encourage pupils and staff to bring reusable bottles, containers, and cutlery. Educate & Encourage – Run awareness campaigns on what can be recycled and track improvements in recycling rates	

PROCUREMENT				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Follow sustainable practices when choosing products This approach involves purchasing products that were designed and produced ethically and sustainably, are non-toxic or made from materials that can be recycled or managed sustainably as waste. This action can follow or support the development of a sustainable procurement policy.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Introduce Alternatives – Replace single-use items with reusable or biodegradable options.	

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Promote walking/cycling/public transport to school by educating pupils Educate children (and the wider school community) on the benefits of active travel by, for example, running school assemblies. Secondary schools can consider participating in Modeshift's Travel Ambassadors programme.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Promote Use – Inform pupils and parents and encourage daily use through assemblies or campaigns.	
Provide bicycle shelters Encourage staff and students to bike or scoot to school with somewhere secure and dry to store their gear.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Identify Locations – Choose safe, accessible areas for secure bike and scooter racks – potential grant available Install Facilities – Purchase and install storage units with locks or covered areas.	
Consider environmental impact of school trips Reduce the distance or investigate more sustainable travel options.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Plan Trips – Identify which school trips could use buses, trains, or local public transport instead of coaches.	

			Communicate Options – Inform staff, pupils, and parents about public transport routes, timetables, and ticketing. Evaluate & Encourage – Monitor uptake and highlight environmental benefits in assemblies or newsletters.	

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

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

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Build sheltered areas on playgrounds for heat resilience Use awnings/shading measures to provide adequate shelter for students on hot days.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Prepare Safe Outdoor Spaces – Ensure school grounds are suitable (e.g., shaded areas, seating, or weather-appropriate spaces).	
Empower students to become climate resilient Understand how different pupils may be vulnerable to climate change, both physically (e.g. access to shade/cool spaces) and psychologically. Take steps to improve pupil resilience e.g. through teaching/showcasing climate solutions, encouraging action-taking, and creating a safe space where pupils are able to vocalise their emotions and concerns.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Create Awareness Campaigns – Use assemblies, posters, and newsletters to teach pupils and staff about resilience to climate change. Integrate into Lessons – Include adaptation topics in science, geography, and PSHE lessons. Encourage Pupil Action – Students lead small projects or challenges to practise resilience strategies.	

WATER				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency Consider engaging with your local water company who may have an education team or free resources on their websites, from assembly sessions and visits to primary schools for your pupils to webinars, downloadable tools and guides, and more.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	For example, book a free Waterwise talk by one of Southern Water's Community Ambassadors to link learning and the water-saving audit with water consumption and conservation Alternatively, you could request a free speaker from WaterAid Speaker Network | Teaching Resource | WaterAid UK	
Install mechanisms to reduce water wastage At the end of life ensure that taps are replaced by push press mechanisms to reduce water wastage or install low-flow attachments. As and when your existing taps and toilet flushes approach their end of life, ensure that the replacements include flow reduction measures to save as much water as possible, e.g. smaller cisterns or install water hippos to reduce water capacity in normal cisterns. Check your water supplier to see if they do free water audits and installations.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	You can request a water-saving audit by emailing SouthernWaterNHH@groundwork.org.uk or calling 0808 1968711. At no cost to the school, they will repair any leaks and install water-saving mechanisms on your taps, toilets and showers	

3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

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

NATURE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Take part in The Nature Park The Nature Park aims to embed nature-based learning into the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve 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.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Link Jonny with NENP school visit opportunity	

Establish a gardening/nature club Set up a gardening and/or nature club for pupils or students to join. The club can help develop the school site for nature, outdoor learning and staff and pupil wellbeing. Engage with the wider school community for volunteer support and resources.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Set Up Club Structure – Recruit staff and pupils, choose meeting times, and plan gardening activities. Learn and Grow – Teach pupils about native plants, pollinators, and wildlife-friendly gardening. Reflect and Share – Record observations and share biodiversity insights with the school community	
Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys Conduct wildlife surveys and habitat mapping using the Nature Park resources or take part in activities such as the Big Birdwatch with the RSPB. Use this data in engaging lessons and to inform the next steps in improving your grounds for wildlife.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Reflect and Share – Record observations and share biodiversity insights with the school community Observe & Record – Monitor wildlife, plants, and pupil engagement, sharing results with the school community.	
Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. add a pond, plant pollinator-friendly plants, put up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels' Develop your outdoor spaces to create a mosaic of habitats and features to provide food, shelter and water for wildlife. Grant funding is often available for this, and make use of the wider community for support and resources.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Identify Areas – Choose sections of the school grounds suitable for wildflowers, grasses, or natural habitats. Implement Rewilding – Plant native species and reduce mowing or pesticide use in designated areas	
Increase planting of available areas Identify areas in your school grounds which could accommodate new planting. This could include hedgerows, trees and wildflower meadows or native plants in borders, planters or pots. When planning ensure the "right tree in the right place" principle is followed and consider accessibility and maintenance requirements.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Plan Tree Planting – Identify suitable locations and choose native tree species. – Woodland Trust trees planted in November 2025 Organise Planting Event – Involve pupils, staff, and local community volunteers in planting. Maintain & Monitor – Water, care for, and monitor tree growth and wildlife attracted to the area	

4. Climate Education, Green Skills and Green Careers

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

CULTURE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
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.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	This is strongly recommended by the DfE	
Set up a sustainability award for students or classes Create an Eco Award as part of the Eco Club's work, either as an end of year celebration or a weekly/half termly award e.g. for the class who do the most recycling/turn off lights and screens most consistently.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Monitor & Celebrate Success – Track reductions in energy use and celebrate achievements in assemblies or newsletters. Celebrate and Review – Recognise staff and pupil contributions and review progress to inspire continued action.	

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Amend your curriculum to incorporate sustainability Amend your curriculum to include stronger links to climate change and sustainability. This could be a total refresh, a bit of tweaking, drop down days or simply adding extra assemblies. Teach the Future, Royal Meteorological Society (Curriculum for Climate Literacy) and the MoEE have amazing resources on how to weave sustainability throughout your curriculum.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Develop Resources – Create lesson plans, activities, and materials linking subjects to climate education and outdoor learning opportunities Implement and Reflect – Teachers deliver lessons, and pupil feedback is collected to improve integration. Deliver Learning Experiences – Take pupils outside for practical lessons in ecology, energy, or sustainability.	

GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Access the Climate Ambassadors scheme Connect with Climate Ambassadors in your region and invite them to do school assemblies on green skills and curriculum linked topics.	**Start: Dec 25** **Review: Termly**	**HT**	Ask your Climate Action Advisor to connect you with Gemma Bailey, Regional Hub Manager	