



Cookham Primary School Climate Action Plan (CAP)

December 2025

Focus areas for the spring term 2026

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Vision

Cookham Primary School is committed to nurturing environmentally responsible pupils and reducing our environmental impact. By working together as a school and village 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. HD

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

Heating and Energy Efficiency:

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

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

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

Headteacher Mrs H Daniels

Cookham Rise Primary School

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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 - HF

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 garden outside the Year 4 and 5 classrooms with native plants, bird feeders, and bug hotels with the support of WildCookham. SOM

Establish a pollinator patch with bee-friendly flowers and herbs.

Outdoor Learning:

Regular outdoor science and art lessons in the garden or local woodland. KP - signed school up to National Education Nature Park

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

Monitoring & Evaluation:



Record species observed by pupils in a “Cookham School Nature Log.” Annual review of biodiversity improvements by staff and Eco Committee.

3. Curriculum & Skills

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

Actions:

Continue to deliver and embed our Kapow schemes as by using Kapow Primary for our foundation subject curriculums, we are confident that we are actively integrating climate education across all subjects: Art, Computing, DT, Geography, History, Languages, Music, Religion and worldviews, RSE/PSHE and Science – discussion around this planned for our training day on 13th April 2026

See ‘Sustainability and Climate Change – progression of knowledge and skills’ Kapow document – June 2025

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 Cookham 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. Supported by Kiss and Drop being open to walkers.

Collaborate with local councils on safe walking/cycling routes.

Village and Parent Engagement:

Run community litter picks involving families and local residents.

Share updates via a contribution to the parish newsletter.

Partnerships:

Work with Cookham Parish Council, WildCookham, and local businesses for practical support and sponsorship of green initiatives.

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.

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