

## Climate Action Plan for Thameside, Caversham, Reading

### **1. Introduction**

At Thameside Primary, we are committed to taking action against climate change by reducing our carbon footprint and promoting sustainability. This Climate Action Plan outlines our key initiatives and goals to create a greener, more environmentally responsible school community.

### **2. Aims and Objectives**

- Reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- Increase recycling and waste reduction efforts.
- Encourage sustainable travel options for pupils and staff.
- Promote environmental education and awareness.
- Develop green spaces and biodiversity within the school grounds.

### **3. Energy and Carbon Reduction**

- Implement a "Switch Off" campaign to encourage turning off lights and electronics when not in use.

### **4. Waste Management and Recycling**

- Introduce a comprehensive recycling programme for paper, plastics, and food waste.
- Reduce single-use plastics by encouraging reusable water bottles and lunch containers.
- Hold 'Zero Waste' days to raise awareness.

### **5. Sustainable Travel**

- Promote walking, cycling, and car-sharing among pupils and staff.
- Participate in national initiatives such as Walk to School Week.
- Promote Ride-to-Work Scheme for staff

### **6. Environmental Education**

- Integrate sustainability topics into the curriculum.
- Organise eco-workshops, guest talks, and field trips.

### **7. Biodiversity and Green Spaces**

- Plant more trees and shrubs to improve air quality and provide shade.

### **8. Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Set clear targets and track progress annually.
- Regularly update the school community on achievements and new initiatives.

### **9. Community Involvement**

- Work with local environmental groups and Reading Borough Council on sustainability projects.
- Encourage parents and the wider community to get involved in climate action efforts.
- Share best practices with other schools in Caversham.

### **10. Conclusion**

By implementing this Climate Action Plan, Thameside Primary aims to lead by example in tackling climate change and fostering a sustainable future for our pupils and community. Together, we can make a difference!

### Ongoing or completed actions

- Conduct a regular energy audit to identify areas of improvement: Ongoing. Business manager will check meter readings every month to see peak times of usage and amend heating temperature where necessary.
- Love Thameside Campaign: To be launched in Sept 2025. Business manager to buy new bins, litter-picks and T-shirts with new designed logo. Children will be encouraged to apply for litter-picker role and be interviewed by business manager.