

Great Gaddesden Church of England (VA) Primary School



Climate Action Plan

Published July 2025

'Treat others as you would like to be treated' (Luke 6:31)

We the pupils, together with the staff, parent committee and governors of **Great Gaddesden CE VA Primary School** are committed to taking action to tackle climate change and reduce our carbon footprint to as close to net zero as possible by 2030. This is an urgent priority for us as, if we don't tackle it now, we will be leaving a damaging legacy that will affect our planet for future generations to come.

We recognise that by working together, through changing habits and behaviour and embedding those changes, we can make a contribution which may be small but when done in conjunction with others will make real change possible. By taking immediate action we can ensure our future will be safer, cleaner and greener, not only for us but for our children, and our children's children!

The following are some examples of what will happen if we ignore this:

- more extreme weather events
- poor air quality – pollution with contaminants and toxins
- less water in our rivers and streams
- increased plant and animal extinction
- diminished human health and life expectancy

In line with our mission statement 'Treat others as you would like to be treated' (Luke 6:31), we strive to support our children to look after God's world by treating it with love, respect and care.

What we have achieved so far:

- New more energy efficient boiler in place
- Started to replace the old lighting with energy efficient led lighting in some areas of the school building.
- Introduced waste recycling for plastics, food and general in the staff room
- Introduced paper recycling in all classrooms
- Installed planters in the new Early Years area and Garden of Reflection
- Worked with heating engineers to ensure our heating controls are much more effective and efficient.
- Introduced the Eco Ambassador team who support lead initiatives to make our school much greener and cleaner.
- Begin our Food Education programme with healthy and sustainable habits in mind
- Continued to deliver Forest School Provision to support our children to develop a love for the natural environment and a heart for the world.

What we aim to do over the next three years:

Aim	Actions	Those responsible
To improve the energy efficiency of lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace all lighting to be energy efficient LED lighting 	MB/HT
To further invest in 'green' spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for the 'Ground Work' Community Grant to refurbish the school house garden including the pond. • Plant more bulbs annually 	MB/HT & KB (Finance Manager)
To develop the children's awareness of sustainability, responsibility and create a strong culture where the children become agents of change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25-26 introduce the Archbishop of York 'Young Leaders Award' for Year 5&6 which includes a community project. • Continue to develop the role of the eco ambassadors in completing the following: regular litter picking (school grounds and within the village), turning off devices and lights. • Complete the modeshift travel plan 	DL (Upper School Senior Teacher) MB/HT DL (Upper School Senior Teacher)