

St Martin's Caversham Climate Action Plan 2025-2028

Introduction

St Martin's Caversham recognises the importance of environmental education and sustainable practices in preparing pupils for their future responsibilities as global citizens. This climate action plan outlines our commitment to reducing our environmental impact whilst enhancing learning opportunities across the curriculum.

Our approach centres on four key areas of development, with clear objectives and measurable outcomes to ensure effective implementation and progress monitoring.

Strategic Focus Areas

1. Decarbonisation

Goal: Achieve net-zero carbon status by 2030

Key Actions:

- Monitor classroom temperatures using thermometers to maintain efficient heating between 18-20°C
- Conduct termly waste audits across all areas of the school
- Establish pupil-led environmental monitoring group
- Implement clearly labelled recycling systems throughout the school
- Introduce weekly vegetarian meal options
- Develop school growing areas for use in food technology lessons
- Encourage active travel to school through walking, cycling and scooting initiatives

2. Adaptation and Resilience

Goal: Create a climate-resilient learning environment

Key Actions:

- Install additional shade structures in playground areas for use during warmer weather
- Plant native tree and shrub species to support local wildlife
- Implement rainwater collection systems for watering school grounds
- Establish clean air initiatives around school gates, encouraging parents to switch off vehicle engines

3. Biodiversity Enhancement

Goal: Support local wildlife and create nature-rich learning spaces

Key Actions:

- Plant native trees, shrubs and wildflower areas to support local ecosystems
- Develop school growing areas with vegetable plots and herb gardens
- Create wildlife habitats including bird boxes and pollinator-friendly planting
- Maintain and enhance existing green spaces to improve air quality around the school

4. Climate Education and Green Skills

Goal: Embed climate literacy across the curriculum and develop environmental leaders

Key Actions:

- Review existing curriculum content to identify opportunities for environmental education
- Integrate United Nations Sustainable Development Goals across subject areas
- Develop outdoor learning opportunities in all year groups
- Establish pupil environmental leadership roles
- Promote awareness of environmental careers through science and geography lessons

Implementation Framework**Academic Year 2025-26:**

- Establish baseline measurements for energy consumption and waste production
- Form pupil environmental monitoring groups
- Begin curriculum review process
- Install basic recycling systems and rainwater collection facilities

Academic Year 2026-27:

- Implement school grounds enhancement projects
- Launch active travel initiatives
- Expand outdoor learning programmes
- Develop partnerships with local environmental organisations

Academic Year 2027-28:

- Install renewable energy systems where feasible
- Complete installation of shade structures
- Review progress against targets and establish new objectives
- Share successful practices with local school networks

Progress Monitoring

Regular assessment will be undertaken through termly reviews focusing on energy usage, waste reduction and pupil engagement. Annual evaluations will measure progress towards carbon reduction targets and improvements in biodiversity across the school grounds.

Pupil voice will be gathered through regular surveys to assess environmental awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives. Parent and community feedback will inform transport and air quality improvements.

Target Outcomes

By 2028, St Martin's Caversham aims to achieve:

- 40% reduction in carbon emissions from 2025 baseline
- 25% increase in pupils using sustainable transport methods
- 20% reduction in school-generated waste
- Full integration of environmental education across all curriculum subjects
- Measurable improvements in school grounds biodiversity and local air quality

Governance and Leadership

This action plan will be monitored by the senior leadership team, with a designated member of staff responsible for coordinating sustainability initiatives. Progress reports will be presented to the governing body, with regular updates provided to the school community through newsletters and assemblies.

The plan represents our commitment to environmental stewardship whilst maintaining the highest standards of education for all pupils at St Martin's Caversham.