



# **Small Steps – Big Impact**

**Marine Academy (Sec)**

**Sustainability Lead: Michelle Samuel**

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## Who to turn to for support:

**School Sustainability Lead**

**Michelle Samuel** [Michelle.Samuel@marineacademy.org.uk](mailto:Michelle.Samuel@marineacademy.org.uk)

**TWT Sustainability Team**

**Mark Acher – TWT Point of Contact –** [estates@tedwraggtrust.co.uk](mailto:estates@tedwraggtrust.co.uk)

## Our Sustainability Mission Statement

*Our family of Ted Wragg Trust schools are committed to fostering a sustainable future by implementing school-based Climate Action Plans. These plans demonstrate our collective commitment to environmental stewardship, aiming to empower our students, staff, and our local communities to contribute meaningfully to a healthier planet.*

*Together, we embark on this journey toward a greener future, understanding that every small step contributes to the larger goal of environmental sustainability.*

## Background to the Climate Action Plan

### Department of Education Guidance

#### **Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education**

The sustainability and climate change strategy for education states: “By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan”. This includes early years settings, schools, multi-academy trusts, colleges, and universities.

Wherever you are on your sustainability journey, this non-statutory guidance and the support now available can help you get started or take the next step.

Further information - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sustainability-leadership-and-climate-action-plans-in-education>

## Road Map:

### Year 1:

Quick win options and understanding where we are – establishing base information. **‘Securing our roots’** to grow in the future. Simple successes will build momentum.

### Year 2:

Establish a plan of what we can do within the capability of our school. This will allow us to **‘expand our reach’** and grow our ambitions.

### Year 3:

Realise the change we have made – reflecting on what has worked and where the next challenge is.

Can we **‘sustain our success’**? Sustainability of progress is at the heart of our approach.

## Timeline for this year:

Date	Action	By Whom
Thursday 26th September	Launch of Climate Action Plan at Sustainability Conference	All Sustainability Leads, TWT Sustainability Team (JF, JAP, MA)
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Tedfest</b> – Drop in session PM at TBH or via Teams	Optional session
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Share a first version of your school Climate Action Plan</b> with your SLT and Mark Acher (TWT Estates)	All Sustainability Leads
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Quality Assurance Panel Review & Feedback	Julie Fossey, Mark Acher, Claire Tribe (Governor) + TBC
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Share with SLT in School	School SLT
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Publish Climate Action Plan</b> to school website.	School SLT
Spring Term - TBC	Online Network Meeting	All Sustainability Leads & TWT Estates
May – TBC with each school	<b>Review of Climate Action Plan</b> with TWT Estates – on site visit	All Sustainability Leads & TWT Estates
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Summer Sustainability Conference</b> @ Great Moor House	All Sustainability Leads, TWT Sustainability Team, Sustainability Governors

## What does progress or success look like?

1. Our schools have a **lower impact on Climate Change** than at the start of the programme
2. Our **school community is more pro-active** in addressing issues of climate change and engage in the Climate Action Plan.
3. **Sustainability Lead is truly the Climate Action Facilitator** and has engaged others to deliver on objectives identified in the school’s Climate Action Plan. Their role has been sustainable to them.

Lots of small steps across our family of trust schools will make a big impact.

“the whole is greater than the sum of its parts” Aristotle

There are a number of identified ‘pillars’ that will help guide us through this journey.

### 5 Pillars of the Climate Action Plan

1. Leadership and Policy
2. Decarbonisation
3. Biodiversity
4. Adaptation and Resilience
5. Climate Education and Green Skills



This is more than just a government strategy – it is our opportunity to empower our community to make small steps in the right direction.

### Leadership and Policy

**This one has been done for you.** Our Trust leadership and your school leadership have made a commitment to this Climate Action Plan.

#### Statement of intent:

*“Our family of Ted Wragg Trust schools is committed to leading with purpose in building a sustainable future. Through our Climate Action Plans, we aim to embed sustainability into all aspects of decision-making—from purchases and transport choices to resource management—ensuring that environmental considerations are central to our strategic actions.*”

*We recognise that effective leadership in sustainability requires both securing our roots and expanding our reach: safeguarding the foundations of our schools while innovating to amplify our impact on students, staff, and the wider community. By aligning our policies and practices with these values, we sustain our success and demonstrate responsible stewardship of the planet, inspiring others to join us on this journey toward a greener, more resilient future.”*









## Decarbonisation



Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Carry out a building energy audit	Assess energy use and identify opportunities for efficiency improvements.	MS	6 months			Quotes to be obtained to establish whether internal staff or external consultants conduct the audit.			Identifying inefficiencies leads to lower energy consumption and carbon emissions.	Aug 26 (Year 1)
Carry out an audit of the Building Management System (BMS)	An efficient BMS system improves efficiency by centralised control, real time monitoring, automated adjustments, energy reporting and analytics	MS	1 Month			Capital spend has been allocated to carry out a BMS review and upgrade (if required).			Budget allocated for investigation 26/27.	Aug 26 (Year 1)
Run a switch-off campaign	To encourage staff and pupils to turn off unused lights, appliances, and electronics.	OE/MS/DS	2 months (one week in each)			Eco club will design and create promotional materials.			Reduces unnecessary electricity usage, lowering the school's carbon footprint	Apr 26 (Year 1)
LED Lighting Replacement	Replace all remaining lights with LEDs and install motion sensors in classrooms and corridors.	MS	Rolling programme 3 years			To be replaced on a rolling programme ensuring that all lights are replaced by 2030			Energy savings and reduced maintenance.	Jan 28 (Year 1-3)

Scoring -

Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Carry out a nature survey	Assess the biodiversity of school grounds and surrounding areas.	OE	1 Month			No significant cost. OE will liaise with Plymouth Uni to explore the potential of students coming in to carry out alongside our students.			No direct impact but fosters school-wide conservation awareness.	May 26 (Year 1)
Increase green space	Convert unused areas into green spaces to support biodiversity.	DS/MS	3 Months			Underutilised area to the front of the school next to 3G identified.			Plants absorb CO2, improve air quality, and support ecosystem health.	Apr 26 (Year 1)
Create a herb garden for the kitchen to use	Grow fresh herbs to use in school meals.	OE	1 – 2 Months			Minimal costs for seeds, soil, and planters. Eco Club will design and create the herb garden as a first small-scale project.			Reduces the need for transported herbs, cutting food miles. Lowers kitchen ingredient costs over time.	Feb 26 (Year 1)
Build an Insect Hotel	Build habitats for insects and small mammals using log piles and wood pallets.	DS	1 month			Uses natural and recycled materials, making it a low-cost initiative. Quick to implement			Supports ecosystem health indirectly. No direct cost savings.	Apr 26 (Year 1)

<p>Sign up to education nature park</p>	<p>Join the national or local educational nature park program to enhance outdoor learning. Pupils gain a deeper appreciation of the environment. Schools can access valuable teaching resources and support for outdoor learning initiatives.</p>	<p>DS</p>	<p>Term</p>			<p>Resources to support your biodiversity journey. Help available to come to site.</p>			<p>Encourages nature conservation and awareness of climate action.</p> <p>No direct financial benefits but long-term educational value.</p>	<p>Aug 26 (Year 1)</p>
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Adaptation & Resilience

Scoring -

Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Undertake a roof/gutter survey using the TWT Estates Drone	Ask the TWT Estates team to fly campus buildings to check roofs and gutters for blockages or damage.	MS	Day			No cost, drone will be flown over the school during lessons or before/after school to ensure to disruption.			Will help to identify any blockages and maintenance issues.	Oct 25 (Year 1)
Fit solar film on the windows	Apply solar film to windows to reduce heat gain and energy consumption.	MS	Rolling programme 1 year			Moderate cost but provides long-term energy savings and improved classroom comfort. Quick /minimal disruption			Reduces energy consumption for heating and cooling, lowering overall carbon emissions. Lowers utility bills by improving thermal	Aug 26 (Year 1)
Source Cleaning Products with Eco-Certifications.	Use biodegradable and non-toxic cleaning products. Traditional cleaning products contain harmful chemicals that can pollute water and air.	Fusion	1 month			Some eco-friendly products may be slightly more expensive.			Reduces pollution from chemical runoff. Long-term health benefits reduce medical costs.	Dec 25 (Year 1)
Emergency Planning	Update school risk assessment to include climate-related events (e.g. heatwaves).	MS	1 month			Ensure staff awareness.			Improves safety and preparedness	Apr 26 (Year 1)



## Climate Education and Green Skills

Scoring -

Action	Description	Lead	Timescale (wks/mths)	Cost Score (1-5)	Time Score (1-5)	Notes	Envi Impact Score (1-5)	Cost Impact Score (1-5)	Notes	Date Completed
Establish a School Eco Committee	Expand current Eco Ambassador Club and form a school Eco Committee giving students the opportunity to lead sustainability projects, influence school policies, and advocate for environmental improvements.	DS/OE	3 months			No cost beyond organising meetings.  Requires commitment to regular meetings and project work			Leads to long-term environmental improvements  Indirect financial benefits through improved sustainability practices.	Apr 26 (Year 1)
Organise 'Climate Action Awareness Day'	Awareness events/activities running throughout day. Student Eco Committee involved in planning and facilitating.	MS/DS/OE				Minimal cost will raise whole school awareness.			Minimal Year 1 cost. If successful plan to scale up and run annually.	Jul 26 (Year 1)
Integrate Climate Topics in Curriculum	Establish a baseline of Current Activity.	DS	12 months			First step prior to detailed planning. Each area to identify what is currently in place			Allows the setting of realistic targets.	Aug 26 (Year 1)
Met Office Climate Boot Camp	Make use of the TWT Met Office Partnership. This is a program of activities, careers education activities for schools. Pupils attend the Met Office for a day to undertake a workshop.	CW				The programme is already set up for schools.			Pupils who attend are engaged more deeply with careers in the green economy.  No cost savings	Jul 26 (Year 1)

## Further support and information:

- **Climate Ambassadors:** Matching climate experts with education settings. [Visit Website](#)
- **Education Nature Park:** Go on a journey to get to know your outdoor space and use creative decision -making to improve your grounds for people and nature. [Visit Website](#)
- **Sustainability Support for education:** Enabling schools to start their sustainability journey. [Visit Website](#)
- **Transform Our World:** Offers a Climate Action Planner for schools. [Visit Website](#)
- **Climate Friendly Schools:** Provides templates and resources. [Visit Website](#)
- **WWF – School Sustainability Guide.** [Visit Website](#)
- **British Gas - Get Set for Positive Energy:** Supports energy-saving initiatives. [Visit Website](#)
- **EDF Energy - Net Zero Challenge:** Encourages student-led climate projects. [Visit Website](#)