



# Medows First School Climate Change Action Plan

## 1. Introduction

Meadows First School is committed to creating a sustainable future by embedding climate action into every aspect of school life. This plan sets out how we will reduce our environmental impact, adapt to the challenges of climate change, and ensure our students gain the skills and knowledge to thrive in a greener future.

Our approach recognises that meaningful change happens when there is strong leadership, whole-school engagement, and clear, measurable actions.

## 2. Vision and Aims

- To become a low-carbon, climate-resilient school community.
- To create a culture of sustainability that influences our operations, teaching, and local community.
- To empower our students with the knowledge and skills to lead on climate action and green careers.
- To work in partnership with Eco-Schools to ensure a whole school, inclusive approach.

## 3. Leadership and Governance

- **Sustainability Lead:** A designated senior leader will oversee implementation of this plan.
- **Sustainability Team:** A group including staff (teaching and operational), governors, and student eco-representatives will meet regularly to drive action.
- **Reporting:** Progress will be reported to the Governing Body and shared with staff, students, and parents annually.
- **Succession Planning:** Sustainability will remain a standing item in strategic planning to ensure long-term commitment.

## 4. Key Action Areas

### Decarbonisation

- Calculate the school's carbon footprint annually (covering energy) Using the Cut Your Carbon' tool on Eco School website using data supplied from Worcestershire.gov
- Set a target for carbon reduction (e.g. 50% by 2030, net zero by 2050 in line with national targets).
- Communicate with BAM (building management company) to continually Improve energy efficiency through LED lighting, blinds and shutters fixed, hot water and heating is timed so it is only on during weekdays (excluding holidays) and insulation upgrades.
- Explore timer switches for electrical devices such as ipad storage
- Encourage sustainable travel: walking, cycling, public transport, and car-sharing initiatives and hold an annual 'Pedal, Roll or Stroll to school' week

### Adaptation and Resilience

- Identify climate-related vulnerabilities (e.g. overheating, flooding).
- Build on our outdoor shaded spaces and plant more trees to reduce heat risk.
- Build resilience into emergency planning and estates management.

### Improving the Environment and Biodiversity

- Create biodiversity projects: wildflower areas developed, ponds, bird boxes, and hedgerow planting.
- Register to be a Hedgerow Hero (Wildlife Trust) apply for hedgerows that can be planted on school ground.
- Use school grounds as a teaching tool for nature and ecology, creating QR codes for flora and fauna identification for children to use during playtimes.
- Hold an annual outside learning day.
- Continue to elect and have a student-led gardening and eco-club and well-being crew to support ongoing projects.

### Climate Education and Green Careers

- Embed climate change and sustainability into the curriculum across all subjects, particularly through our Social Action Projects across all year groups e.g. Year 1 – Caring for our world, Year 4 Climate Action project etc.
- Have meetings with Local MP regarding local sustainability and environmental issues in the locality.
- Support student projects, campaigns, and competitions related to sustainability.
- Provide CPD (continuing professional development) for staff to ensure confidence in teaching climate education.

## 5. Engagement and Whole-School Approach

### Learners

- Student eco-committee will be central to decision-making.
- Students will help design campaigns to raise awareness and encourage sustainable behaviours.
- Climate action projects will be celebrated in assemblies, newsletters, and local media.

### Staff

- Provide training and resources to help embed sustainability in lessons and operations.
- Recognise and celebrate staff contributions to climate action.

### Parents and Community

- Share progress and invite parents to take part in sustainability events.
- Collaborate with local organisations, charities, and businesses on sustainability initiatives.

## 6. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Annual review of carbon footprint and sustainability performance.
- Student and staff surveys to monitor awareness, confidence, and cultural change.
- Publish an annual update on the school website.
- Regularly review and adapt the plan in line with new opportunities and challenges.

## 7. Conclusion

This Climate Change Action Plan sets out Meadows First School's commitment to making meaningful, measurable progress towards a sustainable future. Through leadership, engagement, and education, we will reduce our environmental impact, improve resilience, and inspire the next generation to take climate action into their lives and careers.

# Our School Climate Action Plan

We want to make our school greener, healthier and ready for the future – while helping everyone learn how to tackle climate change.

## Our 4 Big Goals

### Cut Carbon (Decarbonisation)

1

- Save energy (LED lights, insulation)
- Reduce waste and single-use plastics
- Encourage walking, cycling and public transport



### Be Ready (Adaptation & Resilience)

2

- Plant trees for shade
- Use water wisely (rainwater collection, no leaks)
- Protect our school from flooding and overheating



### Boost Nature (Biodiversity)

3

- Develop wildflower gardens, ponds, and habitats
- Look after birds, insects and plants on site
- Take part in major annual Eco event such as RSPB Birdwatch



### Learn & Lead (Climate Education & Green Careers)

4

- Teach climate change across subjects and Through our Social Action Projects
- Run eco/gardening projects and clubs led by student



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*Together we can make our school a greener place and inspire change in our community and beyond!*

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