



Climate Action Plan

Valid From: September 2025

Review: September 2028

1. Policy Statement

The Wharf Nursery School is fully committed to supporting the Department for Education's (DfE) ambition for all education settings to become net zero by 2050. We recognise the important role early years providers play in promoting sustainability and environmental responsibility. Through our curriculum, daily practice, community engagement, and reflection, we will contribute to reducing our carbon footprint and developing a culture of environmental stewardship from an early age.

2. Aims and Objectives

As part of our Climate Action Plan, we aim to:

- Comply with DfE requirements for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.
 - Integrate sustainable development and climate education throughout our early years curriculum.
 - Encourage children to explore and understand the natural environment.
 - Engage families and the wider community in our sustainability journey.
 - Reflect regularly on our practices and make ongoing improvements in line with sustainability goals.
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3. Key Areas of Focus

Our Climate Action Plan is built around the four core areas outlined by the DfE:

a. Decarbonisation

- Monitor and reduce energy use within the setting.
- Promote low-carbon practices such as recycling, reusing materials, and reducing waste.
- Encourage active travel (e.g. walking, cycling) for staff and families where possible.

b. Adaptation and Resilience

- Ensure our setting is prepared for extreme weather events and seasonal changes.
- Build resilience through risk assessments, planning, and the promotion of outdoor learning in all weathers.
- Educate children about how weather patterns and the climate are changing.

. Biodiversity

- Maintain and improve green spaces in our setting (e.g. gardens, planting beds).
- Include activities focused on planting, growing, and wildlife care.
- Encourage children to develop a respect for nature and understand its importance.

d. Climate Education and Green Careers

- Embed the UN Sustainable Development Goals (2015) in age-appropriate ways across the curriculum.
- Foster curiosity about environmental topics such as pollution, ecosystems, and conservation.
- Promote early interest in sustainability and climate-focused careers through stories, role play, and real-world examples.

4. Implementation in Practice

To deliver our Climate Action Policy, we will:

- Provide daily opportunities for outdoor learning and engagement with nature.
- Include sustainability topics in planning and teaching across all areas of learning.
- Support children in understanding how to monitor and reduce carbon emissions (e.g. through recycling, turning off lights).
- Involve parents/carers in sustainability initiatives through communication, workshops, and shared projects.
- We are committed to taking meaningful and practical steps towards a more sustainable future. By embedding sustainability into our curriculum and culture, and by working closely with families and the community, we will prepare our children to care for and protect the world they will inherit.

- Collaborate with local community groups on environmental initiatives and improvement projects.
 - Reflect termly on our climate impact and set goals for continuous improvement.
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5. Monitoring and Evaluation

We will:

- Review our climate action practices each term and update our Climate Action Plan accordingly.
 - Assess the effectiveness of sustainability integration in our curriculum.
 - Collect feedback from children, staff, and families to inform future action.
 - Report progress to the leadership team and, where appropriate, the wider community.
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6. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Leadership Team:** Overall responsibility for the development and delivery of the Climate Action Plan.
- **All Staff:** Implement daily sustainable practices, promote environmental awareness, and model responsible behaviours.
- **Parents/Carers:** Engage with the setting's sustainability goals and support home-based practices.
- **Children:** Participate in age-appropriate activities and develop awareness of environmental issues.