Climate Action Plan



St Vigor & St Johns Church School

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

At St Vigor & St Johns Church School, we believe that small actions can lead to big changes, and we're excited to take steps toward a greener, more sustainable future. Our Climate Action Plan is all about creating a positive impact on the environment while inspiring our students, staff, and families to work together for a cleaner, healthier world.

From reducing waste to saving energy, we are committed to making eco-friendly choices that will benefit not only our school but the community around us. By embracing these efforts, we hope to encourage everyone at St Vigor & St Johns Church School to become climate champions and help build a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.

SUMMARY

Completed:	5 items
In progress:	3 items
Not started:	10 items



Section

DECARBONISATION

CARRY OUT A BUILDING ENERGY AUDIT

Conducting a building energy audit helps schools pinpoint areas of energy waste, from heating inefficiencies to unnecessary lighting. Schools can use professional energy assessors or pupil-led monitoring programs to analyse energy usage and recommend improvements. Findings can inform decisions on insulation, lighting upgrades, and behaviour-based energy-saving strategies.

NOT STARTED

TRAVEL SURVEY

A travel survey helps schools gather data on pupil and staff commuting habits. By understanding travel patterns, schools can identify opportunities to encourage more sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling, carpooling, or using public transport. This information can support decisions on bike rack installations, road safety improvements, and incentive programs for eco-friendly commuting.

NOT STARTED



Section

DECARBONISATION

RUN A SWITCH OFF CAMPAIGN

A switch-off campaign raises awareness about energy consumption and encourages simple behavioural changes to reduce waste. Schools can run competitions, put up reminder posters, and conduct audits to track energy savings. Engaging pupils through classroom discussions and real-time energy monitoring can make energy efficiency a long-term habit.

Started: 31st Aug 2025

IN PROGRESS

DELIVER SOME LESSONS OUTSIDE

Outdoor lessons provide pupils with fresh air and a change of scenery while reducing reliance on indoor lighting and heating. Whether it's reading in a shaded area, conducting science experiments outside, or using school gardens for hands-on learning, outdoor education fosters engagement and sustainability awareness.

Started: 31st Aug 2025
Completed: 31st Aug 2025

COMPLETED



Section

DECARBONISATION

INSTALL SOLAR PANELS

Installing solar panels requires an MCS certified installer to install them. They will normally be able to give you an idea of the amount of solar panels that can fit on the premises. You'll need to also decide if you would like a battery system as well, to help store energy during winter months when there is less sunshine available.

Started: 31st Aug 2025
Completed: 31st Aug 2025

COMPLETED



Section

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

AUDIT AND REDUCE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

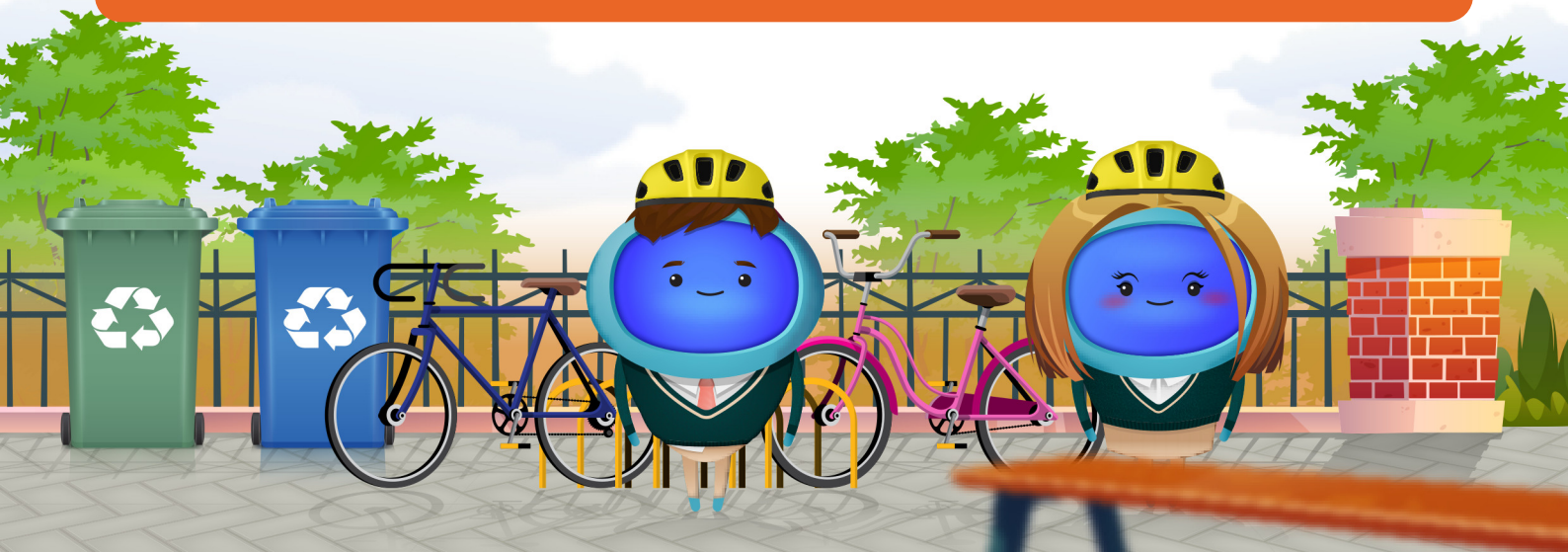
Schools can conduct an audit of their plastic use, identifying areas where single-use plastics can be eliminated or replaced with sustainable alternatives. This includes plastic cutlery, straws, and packaging materials. Encouraging the use of reusable water bottles and lunch containers can also contribute to waste reduction.

NOT STARTED

CREATE A HEATWAVE HEALTH AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT

As heatwaves become more common due to climate change, schools must ensure the wellbeing of pupils and staff during extreme temperatures. A heatwave health and safety assessment should include installing shaded seating areas, increasing hydration points, improving ventilation, and adjusting schedules during hot weather. Proactive planning helps prevent heat-related illnesses while fostering a healthier, more resilient learning environment.

NOT STARTED



Section

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

INSTALL WATER BUTTS

Water butts allow schools to collect and store rainwater, reducing dependence on mains water for irrigation, cleaning, and other non-drinking purposes. This initiative helps conserve water, cut utility costs, and educate pupils on sustainable water management practices. Schools implementing water butts can use them to water gardens, supply outdoor play areas, and even contribute to science lessons on water conservation.

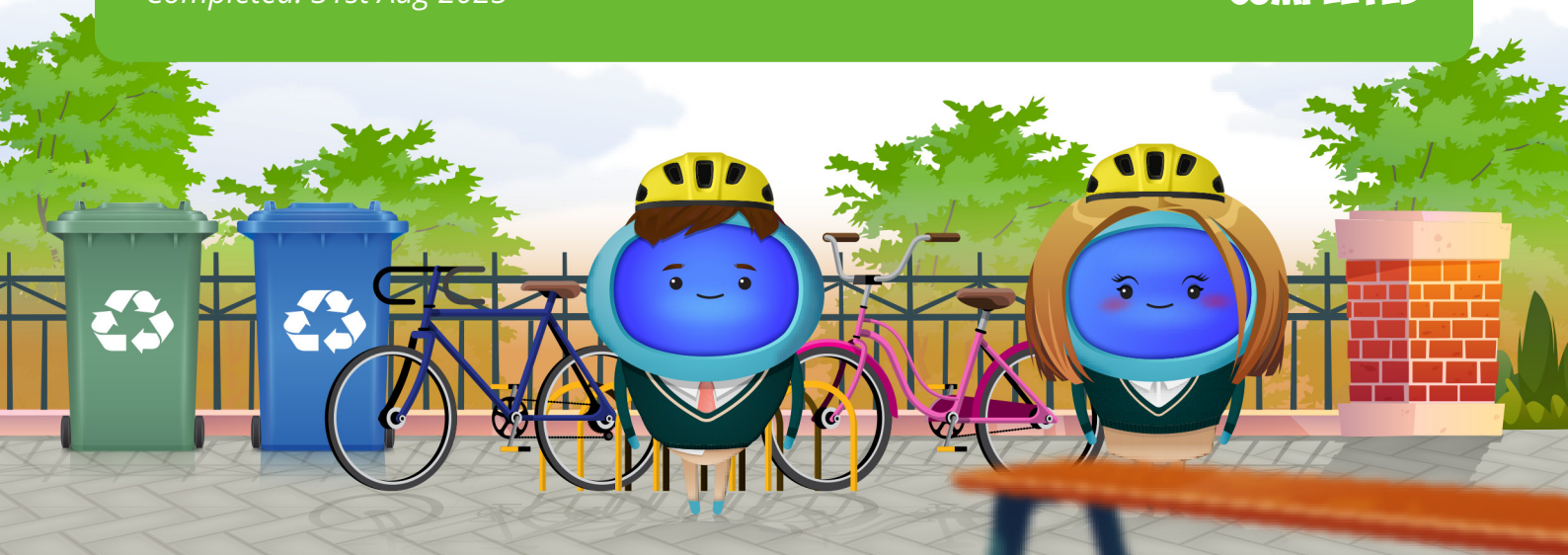
NOT STARTED

PLANT TREES TO CREATE SHADED AREAS

Planting trees strategically around the school campus provides natural cooling, reducing the need for artificial cooling systems during hot months. Trees also improve air quality by filtering pollutants, enhance biodiversity by providing habitats for birds and insects, and create inviting outdoor learning spaces. As they grow, trees contribute to carbon sequestration, offsetting a portion of the school's emissions while simultaneously improving pupil wellbeing.

Started: 31st Aug 2025
Completed: 31st Aug 2025

COMPLETED



Section

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

PURCHASE SCHOOL-BRANDED REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES

Schools can distribute school-branded reusable water bottles to encourage pupils and staff to move away from single-use plastic bottles. Paired with hydration stations, this initiative promotes healthier drinking habits while reducing plastic waste. Schools may consider offering bottles as part of a welcome pack or fundraising effort.

Started: 31st Aug 2025
Completed: 31st Aug 2025

COMPLETED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

CARRY OUT A NATURE SURVEY

Schools can conduct nature surveys to document the species of plants, insects, and animals found on school grounds. This information can help identify areas for biodiversity improvement, such as adding nesting boxes, planting native species, or reducing pesticide use. Engaging pupils in biodiversity monitoring promotes conservation awareness and scientific curiosity.

NOT STARTED

PARTICIPATE IN THE RSPB BIRDWATCH

Schools can engage pupils in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Birdwatch, an annual citizen science event where participants record and report bird sightings. This initiative helps develop observation skills, raises awareness of biodiversity, and contributes valuable data for conservation efforts. Schools can integrate this activity into science and geography lessons to reinforce learning.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

WORK WITH THE PUPILS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON HOW THE SCHOOL SITE SHOULD LOOK

Schools can involve pupils in decision-making about their learning environment, ensuring that sustainability considerations are incorporated. Whether through workshops, surveys, or school councils, pupil input can lead to more effective green space planning, improved outdoor learning areas, and projects that align with their needs and interests. Involving pupils also increases their sense of ownership and responsibility for the school environment.

NOT STARTED

BUILD A SCHOOL POND FOR WILDLIFE

School ponds provide essential habitats for amphibians, insects, and birds, improving local biodiversity. They also offer a hands-on educational resource for pupils to study aquatic ecosystems, life cycles, and conservation. Proper maintenance ensures the pond remains a thriving habitat.

Started: 31st Aug 2025
Completed: 31st Aug 2025

COMPLETED



Section

CLIMATE EDUCATION & GREEN SKILLS

HOST A SUSTAINABILITY-THEMED ASSEMBLY EACH TERM

Hosting a sustainability-themed assembly each term ensures that pupils remain engaged with environmental topics. These events can feature guest speakers, pupil-led presentations, and school-wide challenges to encourage participation. Assemblies help build a culture of sustainability and reinforce its importance throughout the school community.

NOT STARTED

ORGANISE A WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Encouraging pupils and staff to walk, bike, or use public transport instead of driving can reduce emissions and improve local air quality. A Walk to School Week helps raise awareness about the environmental and health benefits of active travel.

NOT STARTED



Section

CLIMATE EDUCATION & GREEN SKILLS

DEVELOP AN OUTDOOR LEARNING PROGRAM FOCUSED ON NATURE

Outdoor learning programs provide pupils with hands-on experiences in nature, teaching them about local ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation. Schools can create learning gardens, conduct nature walks, or collaborate with conservation groups to enhance pupil engagement with the environment.

Started: 31st Aug 2025

IN PROGRESS

IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Schools can work with suppliers to source uniforms made from organic, recycled, or ethically produced materials. Encouraging second-hand uniform sales and repair workshops can further reduce waste and environmental impact.

Started: 31st Aug 2025

IN PROGRESS

