



St John's CE Primary School, Radcliffe

Climate Action Plan (2025–2028)

Our Context in Radcliffe: Radcliffe is undergoing major regeneration with a strong sustainability focus:

- The **Radcliffe Civic Hub** is being built to net-zero standards with solar panels, green roofs, and low-energy systems
- The **Strategic Regeneration Framework** supports sustainable transport, local supply chains, and community engagement .
- These developments offer **partnership opportunities** for schools to engage in local sustainability efforts.

1. Leadership & Governance

- Sustainability Lead: Appoint a member of SLT (e.g. Deputy Head or Site Manager) – Tracey Cansdale, Headteacher is in place as Sustainability Lead
- Establish a Sustainability Committee: Include pupils (Eco Council), staff, governors, and parents - This should happen in Spring 2026
- Report progress termly to governors and publish updates on the school website.

2. Decarbonisation

Goal: Reduce the school's carbon footprint by 30% by 2028

- Conduct an energy audit (lighting, heating, insulation) – as part of The Sycamore Trust we have been auditing our energy as part of reducing costs
- Install smart meters and involve pupils in monitoring usage – await information from suppliers about feasibility
- Promote active travel (walk/cycle to school weeks) – beginning in Spring 2026
- Reduce single-use plastics in lunch provision – we already provide plastic cups and water bottles that are reused to discourage children from bringing single-use items – Eco Council can further promote this
- Develop a sustainable procurement policy – Trust-wide

3. Adaptation & Resilience

Goal: Ensure the school site is climate-resilient

- Assess flood and overheating risks – TC to do by Summer 2026

- Consider shade structures and planting trees for cooling – Eco Council to look at in 2026
- Improve drainage and explore rainwater harvesting – we have already met with Building Contractor and Bury Council to look at issue of drainage in Summer 2025.
- Create a cool zone indoors for heatwave days – Eco Schools to do by Summer 2026.

4. Biodiversity

Goal: Increase biodiversity on school grounds by 50% by 2028

- Join the National Education Nature Park – done Summer 2025
- Create a wildlife garden, bug hotels, and bird feeders – this has been done in some areas but Eco School Council will formally create an area by Summer 2026
- Map habitats using geospatial tools with pupils – Geography outdoor learning opportunity to be considered by Amy Cope, Geography Lead in 2025-26
- Partner with local groups (e.g. Bury Council, Radcliffe Civic Hub) for planting projects

5. Climate Education & Green Skills

Goal: Embed sustainability across the curriculum

- Link topics to UN Sustainable Development Goals – Rights Respecting School
- Use Forest School and outdoor learning to explore ecosystems – train a member of staff to run Forest School or similar activities regularly, Tracey Cansdale is L3 Forest School trained
- Celebrate Eco Weeks, Earth Day, and local green events – Jamal Thomas to consider as part of PSHE curriculum in 2025-26
- Offer CPD for staff on climate literacy and eco-anxiety
- Invite local experts and parents to speak about green careers and use opportunities on Developing Experts Science Curriculum – Nicole Thompson to consider as science co-ordinator in 2025-26

6. Community Engagement

Goal: Make sustainability a shared mission

- Host The Bread and Butter Thing project weekly which reduces food waste from landfill and repurposes it to families living in food poverty – started in Summer 2025 link person is Liz Cope
- Join Neighbourly to re-purpose other items from going into landfill – and encourage re-use of items such as food waste, plants etc – Sue Knight, Claire Wood
- Share progress via newsletters and social media
- Collaborate with other Sycamore Trust schools on joint projects

7. Monitoring & Evaluation

Goal: Ensure that the plan is monitored and evaluated

- Progress Tracking: The plan will be reviewed by the Local Academy Committee in 2025-26 and monitored by the Eco Schools Council when it is established
- Success Metrics: Include % reduction in energy use, biodiversity counts, and pupil participation where this information is available
- Reporting: Annual report to governors and summary shared with parents and community