



# Portway Junior School

## Climate Change and Sustainability Action Plan

*Vision - The United Kingdom is the world-leading education sector in sustainability and climate change by 2030. In England, we will achieve this through the following strategic aims:*

1. *Excellence in education and skills for a changing world: preparing all young people for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.*
2. *Net zero: reducing direct and indirect emissions from education and care buildings, driving innovation to meet legislative targets and providing opportunities for children and young people to engage practically in the transition to net zero.*
3. *Resilience to climate change: adapting our education and care buildings and system to prepare for the effects of climate change.*
4. *A better environment for future generations: enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality and increasing access to, and connection with, nature in and around education and care settings.*

At Portway Junior School our aim is to create a sustainable, eco-conscious learning environment where students, staff, and the community work together to protect the planet, reduce the school's carbon footprint, and instil lifelong environmentally-friendly habits. At Portway Junior School, we recognise the importance of preparing our young people for the world impacted by climate change, to build resilience for the future and create learners who are environmentally conscious.

### How and when do we aim to do this?

Goal	Action	Steps to Success	Curriculum links
<p><b>Establish and Eco-Club</b></p> <p>Form an Eco-Club that serves as the driving force behind all environmental and sustainability initiatives.</p>	<p>Recruit student volunteers and teachers to lead the club, offering leadership opportunities for students. This club will oversee green initiatives and engage the whole school in eco-awareness projects.</p>	<p>Organise litter-picking days in the field, garden, and forest school area.</p> <p>Set up recycling bins across the school and monitor proper use.</p> <p>Promote waste-free lunch days and educate on reducing plastic use.</p>	<p>The Eco-Club can lead assemblies on sustainability and coordinate with classes for cross-curricular activities (science, geography, art).</p>
<p><b>Energy Efficiency</b></p> <p>Improve energy efficiency in the school and introduce renewable energy options where feasible.</p>	<p>Begin by reducing energy consumption through low-cost actions and plan to explore renewable options like solar or wind energy.</p>	<p>Conduct a school-wide audit of lights and electronics to ensure they are turned off when not in use.</p> <p>Install energy-saving light bulbs and promote energy-conscious behaviours.</p> <p>Educate students on the importance of conserving energy.</p> <p>Investigate grants and funding opportunities for solar panels or wind turbines to power the school.</p>	<p>Incorporate energy-saving lessons into science classes, such as teaching about renewable energy, energy conservation, and climate change impacts.</p>

<p><b>Enhance Outdoor Learning and Green Spaces</b></p> <p>Utilise the school's open spaces—garden, field, and forest school—to promote biodiversity and outdoor education.</p>	<p>Expand the use of these areas for eco-education and sustainability projects.</p>	<p>Create a wildlife habitat area in the field, encouraging students to help with planting trees, wildflowers, and maintaining bird feeders.</p> <p>Develop composting areas for garden waste and food scraps from lunch, educating students on composting and its environmental benefits.</p> <p>Grow vegetables in the school garden that can be used in school meals or cooking classes.</p>	<p>Incorporate outdoor learning into the science and geography curriculum. For example, have students study plant life cycles, pollinators, and ecosystems in the forest school and garden.</p>
<p><b>Waste Reduction and Recycling</b></p> <p>Reduce waste across the school and encourage recycling.</p>	<p>Implement a comprehensive recycling program and reduce single-use plastics.</p>	<p>Set up clearly labelled recycling bins in classrooms, the canteen, and outdoor areas.</p> <p>Reduce single-use plastic in school meals (e.g., plastic cutlery or packaging).</p> <p>Hold a “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” week with competitions and activities that teach students about managing waste.</p>	<p>Link waste reduction to design and technology (DT) and science projects. For instance, students could design products from recycled materials or calculate how much waste can be diverted from landfills through recycling.</p>
<p><b>Water Conservation</b></p> <p>Reduce water usage at the school and raise awareness about the importance of water conservation.</p>	<p>Install water-saving devices and raise awareness.</p>	<p>Fit taps with aerators to reduce water flow.</p> <p>Ensure students know how to turn taps off completely.</p> <p>Use rainwater collection systems to water the garden and forest school area.</p>	<p>Teach water conservation in geography and science lessons, with students calculating water usage and discussing global water scarcity.</p>
<p><b>Promote Sustainable Travel</b></p> <p>Encourage walking, cycling, or carpooling to school to reduce carbon emissions.</p>	<p>Launch a "Walk to School" program.</p>	<p>Organise walk-to-school days and encourage students and staff to cycle, walk, or carpool to reduce emissions.</p> <p>Embed use of bike racks to encourage cycling.</p>	<p>Use maths lessons to calculate the carbon savings made through sustainable travel and encourage students to track their travel methods.</p>
<p><b>Climate Change Education and Awareness</b></p> <p>Embed climate change education throughout the curriculum, raising awareness about the environment, sustainability, and global issues.</p>	<p>Ensure climate change and sustainability topics are taught across different subjects.</p>	<p>Teach climate change in geography and science lessons, using local and global examples to show the impact.</p> <p>Incorporate sustainability into literacy lessons by reading books and stories with environmental themes.</p> <p>Introduce art projects that use recycled materials to raise awareness about waste reduction.</p>	<p>In English, have students write persuasive essays or speeches about the importance of protecting the environment. In history, link environmental issues with key events such as the Industrial Revolution.</p>
<p><b>Engage Parents and the Community</b></p> <p>Involve the wider community in sustainability efforts.</p>	<p>Create opportunities for parents and local groups to participate in green initiatives.</p>	<p>Host community clean-up days in the school's green spaces.</p> <p>Run workshops for parents on eco-friendly living, such as reducing energy use or composting at home.</p> <p>Invite local environmental experts to speak at school events or workshops.</p>	<p>Encourage students to engage in community projects, such as organising tree planting or litter clean-up events, linking with citizenship and social studies education.</p>

## Timeline for Implementation

Immediate (within 3 months):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Form Eco-Club.</li><li>Launch recycling and waste reduction program.</li><li>Begin energy audit and water-saving actions.</li></ul>
Short-Term (3-6 months):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish sustainable travel initiatives.</li><li>Enhance outdoor learning with garden and forest school projects.</li><li>Begin integrating climate change topics into the curriculum.</li></ul>
Long-Term (6-12 months and beyond):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Investigate renewable energy options.</li><li>Complete wildlife habitat and water conservation projects.</li><li>Build long-term community and parent engagement initiatives.</li></ul>

All the initiatives mentioned above will be collaboratively implemented by the Sustainability Lead, working closely with the Eco-Club, the Headteacher, and the School Governors. This partnership will ensure a holistic approach, combining leadership, student engagement, and governance support to successfully drive sustainable practices across the school community.