

Climate action plan

At Michael Faraday Primary School, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact, improving biodiversity, preparing our school for the impacts of climate change, and educating our pupils to become responsible global citizens who can contribute to a sustainable future.

Priority area	Goal	Action already taken	Next Steps
1. Context – Existing Climate Action	Build on existing environmental work across the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. • Eco Warriors established. • Food composting in place. • Forest School and Gardening Club established. • Air Quality Audit completed. • Biodiversity improvements made across the site. • Sustainability weaved into curriculum to raise awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to embed sustainability throughout school life and review progress annually.
2. Establishing Our Baseline	Understand the school's environmental impact and identify priorities for improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental review completed as part of Green Flag Award. • Air Quality Audit completed. • Utility usage monitored through the school budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redo annual environmental review. • Calculate school carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon. • Conduct annual waste and travel audits. • Monitor energy consumption and waste reduction.
3. Decarbonisation	Reduce carbon emissions from energy use, travel and consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco Warriors encourage switching off lights and electrical devices. • Heating and ventilation systems issues address. • Walking initiatives promoted, ie. walk to school, bikeability • Additional cycle and scooter storage installed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground Source Heat Pump to be reconnected. • Continue to monitor energy use and identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency across the site. • Long-term goal: Secure external funding or successfully bid for the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels to generate renewable energy on site and further reduce the school's carbon footprint.
4. Food Waste	Reduce food waste and encourage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School chef works with pupils to reduce food waste. • Food waste from the kitchen is composted using the school food composter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to raise awareness of food waste amongst pupils.

	responsible consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compost within school used by Gardeners (Walworth gardens) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use compost within school gardens and planting projects.
5. Waste and Recycling	Reduce waste and increase recycling across the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling systems are in place for paper and plastics. Recycling monitors support recycling twice weekly. Awareness of waste reduction has improved amongst staff and pupils. The Eco-Schools audit helped identify areas for improvement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct waste audits. Continue pupil recycling monitors. Explore ways to reduce paper use and single-use plastics. Promote reuse and recycling initiatives across the school community.
6. Biodiversity	Enhance biodiversity across the school grounds and improve access to nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital investment has increased planting and green spaces. Pond established with pupil workshops. Forest School and Gardening Club running successfully. Gardening containers purchased. The school dog provides pupils with opportunities to learn about animal welfare, responsible pet ownership and caring for living things. A variety of trees have been planted to enhance biodiversity, provide habitats for wildlife and improve the school environment. EYFS participate in duckling hatching as part of their learning about life cycles and caring for living things. All ducklings are responsibly rehomed to a safe and suitable environment following the project. EYFS observe the butterfly life cycle, developing an understanding of growth, change, habitats and the importance of protecting wildlife. Across the school, pupils learn about biodiversity, habitats and minibeasts through the Science curriculum and Forest School provision, developing their understanding of ecosystems, food chains and the importance of protecting the natural environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with Walworth Garden to develop wildlife-friendly spaces and pollinator-friendly planting. Monitor wildlife habitats and biodiversity annually. Expand opportunities for food growing in gardening club Continue to embed learning about life cycles, biodiversity and animal welfare through hands-on experiences across the curriculum.
7. Adaptation and Resilience	Improve the school's resilience to climate-related	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality Audit completed. Green screens and planting installed through Southwark Clean Air Fund. Heating and ventilation improvements completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Air Quality Audit recommendations annually. Develop a hot weather and extreme weather response plan. Explore more rainwater collection opportunities.

	risks such as heatwaves, poor air quality and extreme weather.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of trees have been planted across the school site to increase shade and provide cooler outdoor spaces during periods of hot weather. • Rainwater collection systems (water butts) have been installed to capture rainwater for use in the school gardens, reducing reliance on mains water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to liaise with Walworth Gardens to improve shade and green infrastructure.
8. Climate Education and Green Careers	Ensure pupils develop climate awareness and understand future green career opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change, biodiversity and sustainability are taught through Science, Geography, Forest School and assemblies. • Eco Warriors promote sustainability across the school. • Planting opportunities provided in all year groups as part of the Plant unit in Science • The school dog supports learning about animal care, wellbeing, empathy and the responsibilities involved in caring for animals. • Pupils regularly visit local environmental organisations and green spaces, including Walworth Garden and the Wildlife Garden Centre, to develop their understanding of biodiversity, sustainability, conservation and environmental stewardship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-elect Eco Council annually and refine roles. • Continue with Energy, Recycling and Biodiversity Monitors. • Develop an Eco Calendar to ensure we celebrate events such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Autumn: National Tree Week (end of Nov) -Spring: Earth Day (22 April) -Summer: Big Plastic Count (middle March), Walk to School Week (May), World Environment Day (5 June) • Introduce learning about green careers through assemblies, visitors and curriculum links, including careers linked to animal care, conservation and environmental work.
9. Air Quality and Sustainable Travel	Improve local air quality and encourage sustainable travel choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Audit completed and actions implemented where possible, i.e. green screens planted around the school perimeter to help reduce pollution • Additional cycle and scooter racks installed • Annual Walk to School initiatives supported. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue air quality education through assemblies and the curriculum. • Include sustainable travel information in parent induction meetings. • Explore opportunities for a School Street initiative. • Eco warriors work with Southwark Council and TfL to promote low-emission transport. • Consider EV charging infrastructure in future site developments.
10. Litter Reduction	Maintain a clean school environment and reduce litter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter-picking equipment purchased. • Pupils regularly participate in litter-picking activities. Links established with local community groups and Friends of Burgess Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue regular litter-picking sessions. • Promote pupil responsibility for maintaining a litter-free environment. • Friends of Burgess Park partnership.