Climate Action Plan

Holy Cross Primary CVA

1 year plan Summer 2025 – Summer 2026

Carbon baseline: 179.87 **Calculation:** 28/5/25/25

Your Carbon Footprint Report

Your schools total carbon footprint is estimated to be: 179.87 tonnes co_2e* per year

Operational area	Emissions area	t co_2e*	% of footprint
Energy & Utilities	Fuel Usage	25.9	14%
	Electricity Usage	15	8%
	Waste Usage	0.1	0%
	Water Usage	0.3	<1%
Transport	Vehicles	0	0%
	School Trips	4	2%
	Student Commutes	22.6	13%
	Staff Commutes	11.8	7%
Food & Drink	Meals	32.2	18%
Purchases	Spending	17.3	10%
	Uniforms	50.8	28%

*'t co_2e' or 'co_2e' tonnes means 'tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent'. Under the GHG protocol, 7 greenhouse gases are tracked and summarised as the equivalent amount of Carbon Dioxide that would produce the same warming effect.

Note: overall per pupil, your school's emissions are lower than average. Keep up the great work in all areas, Uniform emissions are at average so would be a good priorities to address.

GET STARTED				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Sign up to the Let's Go Zero campaign By joining this campaign, your school confirms that it is taking action now to reduce its own carbon impact, and that it demands the UK Government help all schools reach this goal by the end of the decade.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**	**Laudato Si:** "If someone has not learned to stop and admire something beautiful, we should not be surprised if he or she treats everything as an object to be used and abused without scruple. If we want to bring about deep change, we need to realize that certain mindsets really do influence our behaviour. Our efforts at education will be inadequate and ineffectual unless we strive to promote a new way of thinking about human beings, life, society and our relationship with nature." Signed up to Let's Go Zero on 17th June 2025. Sign up to Count Your Carbon.	
Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**		Signed up to these but need to use these this year, e.g. an assembly.
Sign up to the Sustainability Support for Education **Sustainability Support for Education** A DfE-funded project that enables education settings to start or progress on their sustainability journey. This includes all types of settings from Early Years to Higher Education, offering suggested actions paired with quality-assured resources. You can filter these to show suggestions relevant to your setting based on your teaching age, priorities, how far you've progressed already, estate, and more.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**		

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

Calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions and becoming more energy efficient

ENERGY (Behaviour Change and Retrofit)				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Introduce a school policy around lighting use Having a lighting policy is a quick win, and a great way to get students on board. Get the eco-club to design 'switch-off' signs or stickers to display by all lighting switch panels around the school. This may also include getting staff to consider whether they need all lights on in a room at a time where zoned lighting is possible, and how much light these provide.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Eco-Warriors**	**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM3.2)**Leaders and governors embrace and actively promote the bishop's vision for the diocese including our aims to be Carbon Zero by 2030. They are enthusiastic in their response to diocesan policies and initiatives by engaging in active energy reduction and are seeking ways in which to meet ambitious Diocesan targets including ambitious retrofit projects. We have switch off light posters next to each light switch near the door to remind children, staff and visitors to turn the lights of when they leave the room. We just need to write a school lighting policy. Not yet signed up to Energy Sparks.	
Take part in a switch off campaign ★ Take part in a Switch-Off campaign, e.g. Switch-Off Fortnight. Aim for 10% reduction of energy use (the typical amount saved by participating schools).	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**		
Monitor energy use on a regular basis through platforms such as Energy Sparks Sign up to Energy Sparks. This online energy-monitoring platform enables schools to visualise their energy usage. Energy Sparks provides student-friendly dashboards and a competitive element between signed-up schools to reduce their consumption and thus make great savings.	**Start:** **Review:**			
Instruct all staff to follow heating efficiency practices e.g. turn heating down vs opening windows Give staff clear instructions on how to manage heating in their classrooms, e.g. ensure all teachers know where TRVs are or how to control their classroom thermostat, when to open windows and how to be proactive rather than reactive to overheating issues.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Class Teacher**	We have a monitor in the classroom to tell us if it is too hot or not in the class.	

Ensure your BMS/BEMS has efficient timings and temperatures set for the school day e.g. 6am-1pm at 18 degrees in classrooms Reducing the temperature in a building by 1ºC can save 5% to 10% of your annual heating bill. There is more specific advice in the DfE's energy efficiency guidance around ideal temperatures in different areas of the school.	**Start:** **Review:**		Check with site manager to see what time the boiler comes on.	

ENERGY – BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**NOTES**	**TRACKER**
Install LED lighting Replace any remaining older lighting fixtures with LEDs and install motion sensors in any high traffic areas. The DfE suggests LED installation can reduce energy consumption from lighting by over 84%.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Site manager** **Head**	All new sections of the building have LED lights, and I think most classrooms have LED lighting now. Check with site manager and head teacher.	
Draught proof areas around doors and windows Draught-proof areas around old or ill-fitting doors and windows to prevent energy and heat loss. Have new sealed windows and doors installed or opt for cheaper measures such as draught strips or brush seals.	**Start:** **Review:**		Draft proof areas around doors and windows. Check with site manager to see if any have this already.	
Double glaze all windows where possible Replace any single glazed windows with double glazing or add secondary glazing to enhance energy efficiency, save money, reduce external noise and create a more accessible learning environment.	**Start:** **Review:**		Check with site manager to see if any have this already.	
Investigate the potential for solar panels Investigate solar providers: aim to compare quotes from at least 3 different providers to check you are getting value for money and pricing that works well for you. Providers we recommend checking with: Solar for Schools & Eden Sustainable. (Note: There is a Let's Go Guide for this action)	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**	All new parts of the school have solar panels. Check to see if the old parts of the building have solar panels – No.	

Investigate potential for ground/air source heat pump e.g. PSDS Have a professional assess the suitability of your school site for a ground or air source heat pump. You may be able to apply for funding for this, for example through the Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF). Government grants are often published on the SALIX website.	**Start:** **Review:**		We will discuss with the site manager and office who can write a possible bid for this.	

PURCHASING and UNIFORM				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
No actions yet – possible assess this year and see what actions to put in place for Summer 2026.	**Start:** **Review:**		**Laudato Si:** "We all know that it is not possible to sustain the present level of consumption in developed countries and wealthier sectors of society, where the habit of wasting and discarding has reached unprecedented levels. The exploitation of the planet has already exceeded acceptable limits and we still have not solved the problem of poverty."	
No actions yet – possible assess this year and see what actions to put in place for Summer 2026.	**Start:** **Review:**			

FOOD				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Explain reasons for eating less meat during lessons, assemblies etc. Promote plant-based menu options. Aim to increase uptake of plant-based meals through pupil-led assemblies	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Aspens**	**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM3.5)** Leaders and governors are inspirational witnesses to the Gospel and to Catholic Social Teaching in their direction of the school at every level: this is shown through our decisions surrounding the nourishment of our pupils, staff and community. They embody the Church's preferential option for the poor by ensuring that resources are consciously and effectively targeted at those in greatest need through	

Offer a vegan / vegetarian option every day Increase your vegan and vegetarian offers, whether this includes more hot meal options or addressing your sandwich or jacket potato offerings to begin to shift away from meat fillings.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Aspens**	our work on minimising food waste. In every one of their decisions, such as supporting meat reduction on our school menus, they demonstrate an exemplary commitment to care for our Common Home, to the pursuit of the common good and to service of those in greatest need. Check to see if a vegan/vegetarian option is available to all each day.	
Increase meat-free offer on multiple days or number of meat-free options Increase your vegan and vegetarian offers, whether this includes more hot meal options or addressing your sandwich or jacket potato offerings to begin to shift away from meat fillings.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Aspens**	Check to see if we have meat-free day each week. Check with the kitchen/Aspens.	
Introduce an additional plant based/Planet friendly day Adding an additional planet-friendly day increases your vegan and vegetarian meal uptake.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Aspens**	Rename vegan/vegetarian foods on the menu and then in brackets to say what it is. Aspens have introduced a Plant-Friendly choice on the menu each day, and if the children choose this option, they get a sticker on a reward chart. Once the children have completed it, they will receive a badge and certificate.	
Arrange a menu consultation through external organisation, e.g. ProVeg Consider where and how plant-based meals are displayed on menus to reduce bias against these options, e.g. by making the vegetarian offer the default or first in the list, and the meat-option as the alternative. Send off your menu to ProVeg for a menu consultation and advice on improving the planet friendly options.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Aspens**	Aspens have introduced a Plant-Friendly choice on the menu each day, and if the children choose this option, they get a sticker on a reward chart. Once this is complete, they will receive a badge and certificate.	

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Promote walking/cycling/public transport to school/ Park & Stride Communicate to the wider school community the benefits of active travel.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**	**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM1.3)** Through actions such as our sustainable travel campaigns, pupils gladly embrace their personal responsibility to care for our Common Home, pursue the common good and through their global actions on transport, serve those in need.	
Run active travel campaigns e.g. Modeshift STARS Participate in the three annual Active Travel Weeks: Living Streets, Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel and Cycle to School Week. Aim for these events to trigger a permanent shift to sustainable travel from students who live locally enough to do so.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**	Sign up to Walk to School Week/Bike to School Week.	
Provide cycle proficiency lessons in school e.g. Bikeability Host cycling proficiency lessons in your school grounds, such as Bikeability. Your local authority should be able to support you to get signed up.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Mrs Hardy** **Miss Bamford** **Miss Lloyd**	As a school, we already take part in Bikeability for our KS2 children. Year 5 and 6 teachers will sign up for this. They have signed up to Road Safety.	

WASTE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Ensure recycling bins are in all key areas e.g. classrooms, corridors, playgrounds, cafeteria and staffroom. Ensure that there are bins in all relevant areas of the school to make choosing to recycle easy. Consider colour differences to highlight general vs recycling clearly.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Site manager**	**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM1.3.)** Through our mission to act as stewards of our common home, our pupils have a clear understanding that the school community is committed to following the teaching and example of Jesus as expressed in the Gospels, the social teaching of the Church and the school's own particular charism. As a result of taking part in our waste reduction actions, such as donating their pre-loved uniform to our uniform swap shops, pupils flourish as they seek opportunities to grow in virtue. Through leading campaigns, such as recycling the canteens, they gladly embrace their	

			personal responsibility to care for our Common Home, pursue the common good and serve those in need. We have bins in all relevant areas in the school.	
Label bins clearly Implement clear signage on bins to support with behaviour change. You can work with your students to design signage for these, or Wastebusters have signs and resources designed for primary age and you can access food waste bin labels on Guardians of Grub.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Site manager**	All bins and recycling bins have been clearly labelled.	
Engage with a plastic reduction campaign e.g. Surfers Against Sewage Become a Plastic Free School through the great campaign run by Surfers Against Sewage.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong** **Eco-Warriors**	We are trying out 'No Waste Wednesday's' where some of the Eco-Warriors are encouraging all children to eat their lunch. This has been on a trial basis this last half-term, so we will review this at the end of year to see if it is making impact to continue this – Pentecost 2025. Does this need to be introduced on a regular basis to reduce food waste?	
Establish procedures for the reuse of school supplies For example, have a sorting procedure before the end of summer term. See what supplies can be re-used. Any unwanted items can be donated. School Resources Exchange - SELL | BUY | SWAP	**Start:** **Review:**	**All Staff Members**	Towards the end of the year, and before we make a new stationery order, we always take out any unused items, so we do not over order items. We now only order to replenish rather than ordering i.e. felt tips for very class without checking what each class already has, reducing waste.	

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

Taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating and to future-proof scarce resources for potential shortages

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Write a heatwave policy that addresses areas such as school dress code, passive ventilation measures, PE lessons and slip slap slop campaigns Write a heat wave policy to address issues such as uniform, PE, suncream and outdoor learning. Consider adopting the joint union heatwave protocol including short term, medium term and long term measures.	**Start:** **Review:**		**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM1.4)** Pupils take a leading role in responding to the demands of Catholic Social Teaching and are pro-active in finding ways of responding, locally, nationally and globally to issues surrounding water conservation. They can clearly articulate the theology underpinning their actions to care for our common home, locally through turning off taps and collecting rainwater for our gardens through to global action for all God's children, such as supporting our adaptation and resilience measures. **Not yet.**	
Conduct a grounds audit using LtL tool for climate resilience Conduct a climate resilience audit of the school site, e.g. to check all windows and blinds open and close, guttering, planting etc. The Climate Ready School Grounds survey from Learning Through Landscapes covers all weather conditions and involves students' opinions of their grounds.	**Start:** **Review:**			

WATER				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Install systems to reduce water wastage e.g. controlled flow measures in bathrooms and leak detection (taps) Check your water supplier to see if they do free water audits and installations. At end of life ensure that taps are replaced by push press mechanisms to reduce water wastage.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Site manager** **Miss Duong**	We have a water butt in school to collect rainwater. Check with the site manager that these are still in use.	

Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency through workshops and displays that may be offered by your water provider Consider engaging with your local water company who may have an education team or free resources on their websites, from assembly sessions and visits to primary schools for your pupils to webinars, downloadable tools and guides and more.	**Start:** **Review:**	**Miss Duong**	Invite Severn Trent Water to come into school to raise awareness around water – December 2025. Contact Nottinghamshire County Council for a Flood Workshop – April 2026.	

3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond

NATURE				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Enrol with The Nature Park (NENP) ★ The NENP aims to embed nature-based learning in the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.	**Start:** **Review:**		**Catholic Life and Mission (CLM1.4)** Through our care for the natural world, our pupils take a leading role in responding to the demands of Catholic Social Teaching and are pro-active in finding ways of responding, locally, nationally and globally. They can clearly articulate the theology underpinning their actions such as protecting God's world and caring for its inhabitants. They carry out this mission through wildflower seeding, tree planting and tending our gardens.	
	Start: **Review:**		Sign up and enrol to the NENP.	

4. Climate Education, Green Skills and Green Careers

Ensuring the education you provide gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change, and that your teaching staff feel supported to offer this

CULTURE, CURRICULM and GREEN SKILLS AND CAREERS				
ACTION	**TIMEFRAME**	**STAKEHOLDERS**	**Useful CSI Links**	**TRACKER**
Set up a sustainability working group including PTA Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change including SLT, site manager, teachers, and PTA. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead'.	**Start:** **Review:**		**Laudato Si:** "There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as cooking only what can reasonably be consumed and showing care for other living beings. " We have an Eco-Team called Saint Francis Eco-Warriors. Action – need to ensure that all stakeholders are included on this team.	
Add sustainability goals/ projects/ successes to school website Celebrate your achievements and engage your community in your climate action plans by adding a dedicated sustainability page to your school website. You can also include links to Let's Go Zero and other organisations you are engaging with. Update it with photos or student-written blogs if you can.	**Start:** **Review:**			

www.letsgozero.org

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Registered number: 05062574/ Charity number: 1104153
The Peak, 3rd Floor 5 Wilton Road, London, SW1V 1AP