



AGAPE MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

A collaboration of schools which enhances the educational experiences and outcomes for children, maximising the benefits of working together, whilst maintaining the individual culture and ethos of each individual school

Climate Action Plan 2025-26

Vision: To be a net carbon zero trust

Commitments:

- To take action to reduce our carbon emissions across our school estates
- To take all reasonable steps to work towards being a net carbon trust
- To report on progress to the Trust Board
- To appoint a sustainability lead at each school site to advise, encourage and support the work of the trust.
- To embed sustainability and decarbonisation within policy creation and decision making, working through the lens of our young people and ensuring the protection of future generations by acting proactively to reduce our impact on the environment, placing future generations at the heart of decision making and reporting
- To ensure our curriculum supports learning about nature, the causes and impacts of climate change and the importance of sustainability.
- To support and encourage our young people to use their voice to advocate for a more sustainable future.
- To explore ways in which the trust and schools' distinct Christian visions and values supports an active culture of justice and responsibility in the context of creation care.
- To understand the short-, medium- and long-term risks of climate change to the trust estates and school community including increased heat risk, flood risk and water scarcity.
- To review and understand progress indicators and objectives against timelines and report on policies and programmes.

The Trust and our schools have already made strides to becoming more sustainable. Trust Staff have met with each site's Sustainability Lead and pupils/students to obtain their voice, discuss their ideas and what they would like to see included in our climate action plan.

Sustainability Leads

Altwood School: Mrs Megan Wolpert

Piggott School (Primary Phase): Mrs Lisa Barras

Piggott School (Secondary Phase): Miss Isabelle Stevenson

Decarbonisation

Across the Trust our schools have already started taking measures to decarbonise. Here are some measures our schools have taken (please note that these are not at every school as they are site dependent and reflect the journey of the school to date):

- solar panels installed
- a travel plan is in place
- there is suitable and secure bike storage facilities for staff and pupils/students
- cycling workshops have been offered
- Electric vehicle leasing salary sacrifice scheme
- Electric vehicle charging points are installed or planned at each site
- Cycle/equipment salary sacrifice scheme
- Installation of water fountains
- No single use water bottles sold or the amount has been reduced
- LED lighting installed
- Replacement of aging roofs which promotes heat retention/lowers energy usage
- Replacement of aging boilers with more energy efficient ones
- School uniform collected and reused. Preloved uniform sales
- Campaign and posters asking parents and visitors to the school to turn car engines off whilst waiting to improve air pollution
- More recycling bins throughout school
- Introduction of food waste bins for school caterers

Objective	Steps to be taken	Person(s) responsible for actioning	How we will measure/review the objective	Time frame	Estimated cost/any available funding we can apply for
To count our carbon emissions/footprint	Register with count your carbon Home - Count Your Carbon	Sustainability Lead	Report on completion to the Trust Central Team via SLT	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time
	Complete the count your carbon survey	School Finance Officers and Site Teams	Report to the Trust Central Team via SLT	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time

	Report to the Trust Board on the results of the survey and identify priorities	Trust Team	Report to the Trust Board	Autumn 2026	Staff time
<i>To investigate the school's energy suppliers to ascertain the percentage of renewable energy produced and the contract end dates</i>	To collate the information	School's Finance Officers	Report to the Trust Central Team via SLT	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time
	To consider other suppliers and the level of renewable energy they produce	School's Finance Officers and SLT	Report to the Trust Central Team via SLT	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time
<i>To increase the number of solar panels across all trust sites to reduce our non-renewable energy usage</i>	Piggott (Secondary phase: to install solar panels on the new hall)	Wokingham Borough Council	Report to the Trust Board via the Trust Central Team	End of the academic year 2025-26	Included as part of the WBC build
	To install more solar panels across all sites where feasible	School's Finance Officers and SLT in conjunction with CFOO and Estates Manager	Report to the Trust Board via SLT	Once SCA funding is available – 2026/27	Cost to be determined

Biodiversity

Across the Trust our schools have already started taking measures to increase biodiversity. Here are some measures our schools have taken (please note that these are not at every school as they are site dependent and reflect the journey of the school to date):

- *sites have different species of trees and plants*
- *pond areas to increase biodiversity*
- *planting of wild flowers*

- Reflection Garden with the planting of a wide variety of plants and trees which will promote outside learning
- No mow may

Objective	Steps to be taken	Person(s) responsible for actioning	How we will measure/review the objective	Time frame	Estimated cost/any available funding we can apply for
To increase the amount of hedgerows and trees across all sites	Conduct a site audit to identify suitable areas for more hedgerows and trees	Headteachers in conjunction with their Site Teams and approval from CEO	Report to the Trust Central Team	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time
	Apply to the Woodland Trust for trees/hedgerows	School's Finance Officers	Report to the Trust Central Team	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time. The Woodland Trust provide packs free of charge
Consider if any of the school grounds can be left wild and support 'no mow' May where possible	Site audit	Headteachers in conjunction with their Site Teams	Report to the Trust Central Team	Spring 2026	Staff time
	Liaise with Grounds Contractor to leave areas wild	Site Team of each school	Report to the Trust Central Team	By March 2026	Staff time

Adaptation & resilience

Across the Trust our schools have already started taking measures to adapt our buildings and site to improve their resilience to climate change induced weather patterns. Here are some measures our schools have taken (please note that these are not at every school as they are site dependent and reflect the journey of the school to date):

- Adaptation and review of school uniform such as introduction of school shorts, pupils/students are permitted to wear PE kit in hot weather or wear summer uniform
- Schools have trees that provide shade
- Water stations been installed

Objective	Steps to be taken	Person(s) responsible for actioning	How we will measure/review the objective	Time frame	Estimated cost/any available funding we can apply for
To install more water stations across the school sites	Purchase and install more water stations	Headteachers in conjunction with Finance Officers and Site Teams	Report to the Trust Central Team	May 2026	To be assessed

Climate education & green careers

Across the Trust our schools have already started taking measures to develop climate education and promote green careers. Here are some measures our schools have taken (please note that these are not at every school as they are site dependent and reflect the journey of the school to date):

- *Outdoor learning*
- *Co-curricular eco-clubs*
- *Eco work covered through School Parliament*
- *Reflection Garden/spaces which will allow for outdoor learning*
- *Sustainability is covered throughout the curriculum*

Objective	Steps to be taken	Person(s) responsible for actioning	How we will measure/review the objective	Time frame	Estimated cost/any available funding we can apply for
To appoint an Eco-Councillor on each school Council to support and work with the Sustainability Lead	Appoint a pupil/student Eco-Councillor for each school site	Headteachers/SLT	Report to the Trust Central Team	End of the academic year 2025-26	Free
To increase the number of businesses/persons invited to career events who	Send communications to the parent body and local businesses involved in	Careers Leads	Measure the number of businesses/persons who attend	End of the academic year 2025-26	Staff time

<i>champion sustainability</i>	championing sustainability inviting them to career events				
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De-carbonisation other ideas we are considering:

- *Replace old boilers with heat pumps*
- *Monitor energy usage – free software from Energy Sparks to track energy usage*
- *Caterers to use local food suppliers*
- *Meat free Mondays*
- *Encourage walk/cycle to school schemes*
- *Encourage car-pooling schemes*
- *More bike/scooter storage*
- *Recycling points clearly labelled – incentivise pupils to recycle*
- *Install lighting motion sensors*
- *Smart meter installation*
- *Automatic switching off of computers/white boards after school*
- *Reduce single use plastic*
- *Reduce single use cutlery and plates/dishes*
- *Work with the caterers at each school site to discuss good energy practices, food waste recycling and reduction of single use plastics*
- *Change to electric school minibuses*
- *Turn fridges off over summer/easter*
- *Fully switch to LED lighting*
- *Switch-off campaigns for computers, whiteboards, air conditioning units*
- *Second hand uniform point (Fashion industry makes 10% of greenhouse gases and 2nd largest consumer of water)*
- *Procurement policy to only purchase A+++ rated appliances*
- *Review heating and hot water timings in term time and outside of term time*
- *Install weather compensation on heating systems*
- *Use more cloud-based systems to avoid the need for a server room and the need to cool down this*
- *Cavity wall insulation*
- *Loft insulation*
- *Identify any single glazed windows and upgrade to double or triple glazed*
- *Turn car engines off scheme*

- *Ensure all classrooms and offices have paper recycling bins /work with cleaners to recycle paper*
- *Water free urinals*

Biodiversity other ideas:

- *Green roofs*
- *Miyawaki method of planting (Dense planting of several species in a small piece of land)*
- *Review of use of fertilizers/pesticides*
- *Create a vegetable patch*
- *Create a wildflower patch*
- *Green walls*
- *Bug hotels*
- *Hedgehog Highways*
- *Bird feeders*

Adaptation & resilience other ideas:

- *PE kit in summer or summer uniform*
- *Window film (keeps classrooms cool during warm weather)*
- *Assess schools for heat loss and install draught excluders, reflective panels behind radiators, uncover radiators, seal up air gaps*
- *Review the pressure of water through taps*
- *Identify the high-risk areas of the school site such as ageing infrastructure/vulnerable populations*
- *Install sensors that detect high temperatures*
- *Adjust school hours in periods of extreme weather*
- *Install more sail shading*
- *Dual flush toilets*
- *Install more water stations*
- *Sustainable drainage systems – permeable paving/water collection systems/ unclog drains*

Curriculum and green careers other ideas:

- *Science lessons – have lessons outside and learn how to increase biodiversity/save species rather than learn how species grow*
- *Forest school (Primary)*
- *School trips to recycling plant/woods/farms/renewable energy plants*
- *Posters around the school promoting green careers*
- *Acknowledge Earth Day via assemblies*
- *House competitions for sustainability themes e.g. recycling*
- *Climate change qualification/award*
- *Have a Green Week where each subject demonstrates the benefits of being green and how their subject links to it.*
- *As part of Earth Day – wear something green and collect money for a green charity*