

Climate Action Plan

Micklefield CE Primary Academy


1 year plan Summer Term 2026- Summer Term 2027



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Note: This document is designed for use in a Let's Go Zero workshop with guidance from a Climate Action Advisor. You will need to add/remove actions during the workshop to make this plan bespoke to your setting.

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEP

Action	Notes	Progress Tracker																																									
<p>Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count your Carbon</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="129 959 546 1251"> <thead> <tr> <th>Operational area</th> <th>Emissions area</th> <th>t CO2e*</th> <th>% of footprint</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Energy & Utilities</td> <td>Fuel Usage</td> <td>15.9</td> <td>17%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Electricity Usage</td> <td>13.5</td> <td>15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waste Usage</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Usage</td> <td>0.3</td> <td><1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Transport</td> <td>Vehicles</td> <td>0</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Trips</td> <td>1.2</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student Commutes</td> <td>14.9</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff Commutes</td> <td>8.9</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Food & Drink</td> <td>Meals</td> <td>16.5</td> <td>18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Purchases</td> <td>Spending</td> <td>2.8</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Uniforms</td> <td>17.4</td> <td>19%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 	Operational area	Emissions area	t CO2e*	% of footprint	Energy & Utilities	Fuel Usage	15.9	17%	Electricity Usage	13.5	15%	Waste Usage	0.1	0%	Water Usage	0.3	<1%	Transport	Vehicles	0	0%	School Trips	1.2	1%	Student Commutes	14.9	16%	Staff Commutes	8.9	10%	Food & Drink	Meals	16.5	18%	Purchases	Spending	2.8	3%	Uniforms	17.4	19%		
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Your school's carbon baseline: 91.31t CO2e		Calculation: Nov 2024																																									

Climate Action Plan last reviewed: 01/07/2026	★ = High carbon reduction potential	Overall projected carbon savings: TBC%
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GETTING STARTED

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
<i>Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows</i>				
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: May 2026 Review: May 2027	Emma Cook	Signed up May 2026	
Add sustainability plans, projects and successes to your school website and share through wider communications Celebrate your school's climate action on your website, in newsletters, social media, local press, and events to showcase your successes and involve the wider community. Use the Let's Go Zero comms pack to do this.	Start: May 2026 Review: May 2027	Emma Cook	Climate Action Plan to be added to the website in Summer 2 2026	
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead' and where possible provide PPA time for this role.	Start: Sep 26 Review: July 26	Emma Cook	Ask staff who would be able to be Sustainability Lead.	

1. DECARBONISATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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

ENERGY - BUILDINGS

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
<i>Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows</i>				
Install LED lighting Replace any remaining older lighting fixtures with LEDs and install motion sensors in areas that see only intermittent use. The DfE suggests LED installation can reduce energy consumption from lighting by over 84% .	Start: May 2026 Review: May 2027	Richard Blackmore-Holmes Emma Cook	LED lighting has been installed across school without motion sensors.	
Optimise your BMS/BEMS settings and ensure your heating and hot water systems have efficient timings and temperatures set 18°C is the general recommendation for classroom temperatures, whilst hot water coming out of taps should be no higher than 43°C (stored at 60°C). Experiment with your heating schedule while maintaining comfort - running it one hour less per day or reducing temperatures by 1 degree can cut annual heating costs by 5–10%, according to the DfE .	Start: May 2026 Review: May 2027	Richard Blackmore-Holmes Emma Cook	Settings are set to 18.	

ENERGY – BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
<i>Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows</i>				
Incentivise students to address energy usage Proactively engage and empower the student body to take a lead in promoting and implementing energy efficient behaviour changes to help save costs, reduce emissions, and make their setting more sustainable. Incentivise engagement through inter-class competitions and/or eco awards, or by electing school energy champions. LASER Energy have a School Energy Action	Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27	Emma Cook Sustainability Lead	Form an Eco Champions Group – use the green guardian guide for pupils to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a recycling station Create energy saving actions Create biodiversity areas 	

Hub filled with free energy-saving resources for primary and secondary school pupils.				
<p>Take part in a switch off campaign</p> <p>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). Running campaigns before the holiday period (such as a summer switch-down) can lead to reduced energy use over the holiday period.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	Eco Champions	Pupils to run the campaign as part of activities for the year.	

FOOD

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Start or improve composting and food waste facilities on-site</p> <p>Set up or improve composting for small items like snack-time fruit, as a supplement to your main regular food waste collection. Composting is a great educational tool for engaging students! To get started, ask your school community for unwanted compost bins.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	Eco Champions	Eco Champions start compost bins in every playground	
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WASTE

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Establish procedures for the reuse of school supplies and equipment</p> <p>When having a clear out of supplies and equipment, prioritise reuse over disposal to allow for potential income and/or cost-saving opportunities (e.g. reduced skip hire costs). Use existing networks and online platforms to donate / sell unwanted supplies and equipment - e.g. wider school community, local schools and nurseries; School Resources Exchange; Facebook Marketplace, etc.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Eco Champions</p> <p>Micklefield School Collective</p>	<p>Organise sales of pre loved uniform/ equipment/ books</p>	
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PROCUREMENT

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>★ Develop your uniform exchange and extend existing reuse practices.</p> <p>Evaluate your uniform exchange to track how many items are being re-used and set a target/take steps to increase its uptake (e.g. improved communications to the wider school community and putting systems in place to receive uniform donations from school leavers). Make sure to include PE kit too!</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Micklefield School Collective</p>	<p>Arrange points in the year for an exchange to run.</p>	
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TRANSPORT

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Promote walking/cycling/public transport to school by educating pupils</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Eco Champions</p>	<p>Encourage walking to school weekly. Explore WOW challenge or similar.</p>	
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Educate children (and the wider school community) on the benefits of active travel by, for example, running school assemblies.				
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2. CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

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

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Subscribe to receive Heat Health Alerts and write a heatwave policy</p> <p>Subscribe to the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) Heat-health Alert Service. Familiarise your staff with updated DfE guidance on hot weather. Write a heat wave policy to address issues such as uniform, PE, sunscreen and outdoor learning.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Emma Cook</p>	<p>September 2026 – Heatwave Policy to be written</p> <p>Subscribe to Heat-health alert</p>	
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<p>Ensure staff understand how to cool their rooms through cross ventilation and other context specific measures</p> <p>Communicate to staff how best to cool their rooms through cross ventilating and maximising air flow. Ensure windows and vents can remain open to ventilate rooms and monitor CO2 levels using devices.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Emma Cook</p>	<p>Ensure CO2 monitors are in classrooms and switched on.</p>	
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WATER

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Install water butts to harvest rainwater</p> <p>Capture rainwater to use on plants and grounds around school – and help reduce water flow in heavy downpours whilst saving mains water.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>L. Stanyon Gardening Club</p>	<p>Raise money to buy water butts and to install around school.</p>	
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3. BIODIVERSITY AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond.

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Establish a gardening/nature club</p> <p>Set up a gardening and/or nature club for pupils or students to join. The club can help develop the school site for nature, outdoor learning and staff and pupil wellbeing. Engage with the wider school community for volunteer support and resources.</p>	<p>Start: May 26 Review: Sept 27</p>	<p>L. Stanyon</p>	<p>Establish a Gardening Club</p>	
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<p>Increase biodiversity to support local wildlife e.g. add a pond, plant pollinator-friendly plants, put up birdfeeders, bat boxes and 'bug hotels'</p> <p>Develop your outdoor spaces to create a mosaic of habitats and features to provide food, shelter and water for wildlife. Grant funding is often available for this, and make use of the wider community for support and resources.</p>	<p>Start: May 26 Review: Sept 27</p>	<p>L. Stanyon</p>	<p>Gardening Club to make birdfeeders, bug hotels.</p>	
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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

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Set up an Eco Club or Eco Council for pupils to lead on sustainability initiatives</p> <p>Establish a student Eco-Club or Eco Council. Consider inclusivity and longevity of projects so that as many students as possible can take part throughout their time at school.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Emma Cook</p>	<p>Eco Club set up</p>	
<p>Provide CPD opportunities for staff on sustainability</p> <p>Investigate appropriate CPD opportunities for staff, e.g. sharing existing sustainability related content and developing skills through Climate Fresk or our own Let's Go Zero session that can be delivered in person at staff INSET or remotely. There are also free online CPD sessions from UCL to help embed sustainability in different subjects at Primary and Secondary: Teaching for sustainable futures UCL Institute of Education (you have to register for a free account to access the modules).</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Emma Cook</p>	<p>Once a term, provide staff with CPD on sustainability.</p>	

CURRICULUM

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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Recommended actions listed below – during the workshop, keep or delete rows to suit your setting; or add in your own actions in blank rows

<p>Create an environment where lessons can be taught outside Improve outdoor learning and encourage creative pedagogy that enables students to connect with nature and the local community. Set up regular opportunities to learn in nature across all areas of the curriculum. You can get support and advice from the Forest School Association, Learning Through Landscapes or the National Education Nature Park.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>C. Loring</p>	<p>Forest School Activities to be in place for all children.</p>	
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GREEN SKILLS & CAREERS

Action	Time frame	Stakeholders	Notes	Progress Tracker
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<p>Invite inspirational green careers speakers in to speak to pupils</p> <p>Find green careers speakers to inspire pupils. This could include parents or governors. Use Primary Futures, Inspiring the Future, Speakers for Schools to find speakers.</p>	<p>Start: Sep 26 Review: Sep 27</p>	<p>Emma Cook</p>	<p>As part of Careers week (March 2027) invite in to speak to pupils.</p>	
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