

Your School's Climate Action Plan

Priory Primary School – 2026

		
<p>Run a Switch-off campaign</p>  <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Saving energy saves money and reduces the school's carbon footprint. Co-benefits: pupils find they can make a real difference through the campaign and it reduces the need for energy production.</p> <p>Running a Switch-off campaign needs a whole school push to turn off electrical items when they are not in use or not needed. Challenging assumptions about what is deemed necessary can be important. Do all the lights need to be switched on in a room? Does the projector need to be on all lesson?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Find out who keeps a check on the school's energy use. 2) Use their data, or data collected in an energy audit, to find out where most energy is used as this is a good place to save it. 3) Get staff and pupils on board by promoting the Switch off. 4) Ask the Eco team to monitor what energy is being used across the school during the Switch off. 5) Ask the pupils to report back to the whole school on the results. 	<p>Eco Schools run Switch-off Fortnight every Autumn term and if you join The Pod you can access lots of support materials.</p> <p><i>This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</i></p>
<p>Do a school energy audit and prioritise the top three actions</p>  <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>Understanding the school's energy usage is an important step in identifying ways to save energy which will in turn reduce the school's carbon footprint.</p> <p>An energy audit is a survey of the school's buildings and is the first step in identifying opportunities to reduce energy use and lower the school's carbon footprint. Do an audit and decide on three actions school needs to take to reduce energy use.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Work with pupils to do an energy audit. School users will understand school energy from experience, such as cold and hot spots and provide behavioural knowledge. 2) Employ a professional consultant to advise on energy efficiency and renewables. Look for a CIBSE accredited low carbon consultant. 3) Check if your local authority has an energy manager who could advise. 	<p>MEEN has created an energy audit based on 3 different investigations. Check if your local authority has an energy manager as they should be able to advise.</p> <p><i>This action supports the key area of "our energy supply" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</i></p>

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<p>Include the school's carbon reduction plan in the school plan</p> <p>Pathway: Culture</p>	<p>By putting your carbon reduction plan into your school plan it is at the heart of the school's planning.</p> <p>The DfE advice is to develop a 'green policy' which includes a mission statement; objectives and targets; roles and responsibilities; a framework for action planning and milestones to review progress. Your school plan will, undoubtedly, already include all of these, so the carbon reduction plan could be slotted in.</p> <p>1) The school leadership must agree as it is to ensure that carbon reduction is not marginalised.</p> <p>2) Once agreed run an audit to discover what needs to be prioritised.</p> <p>3) Ensure the actions on the carbon reduction plan are regularly reported on.</p>	<p>The Department of Education advises on creating a 'Green Policy'. Electricity NW's website shares technical information and case studies. For a more school's focused resource you could use the S3 School's Self Assessment tool.</p> <p><i>This action supports the key area of "our resilience and adaptation to climate change" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.</i></p>
<p>Investigate your school food procurement</p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Food and drink production and distribution contributes 20% of UK carbon emissions every year and is the leading cause of deforestation, land use change and biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Encouraging sustainable and healthy eating.</p>	<p>The Food for Life programme is about making good food the easy choice for everyone – making healthy, tasty and sustainable meals the norm for all to enjoy, reconnecting people with where their food comes from, teaching them how it's grown and cooked, and championing the importance of well-sourced ingredients.</p>
<p>Run a Clean Air Day assembly</p> <p>Pathway: Curriculum</p>	<p>Spread awareness throughout your whole school community on the issue of air pollution and how it impacts our health as well as the environment.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group.</p>	<p>For Clean Air Day, Global Action Plan created a collection of school resources to inspire schools to create cleaner air.</p> <p>If you are new to the topic there are learning resources for KS1, 2 & 3 available. If you are keen on involving a whole year group or the entire school, they also provide an assembly pack that includes a PowerPoint and plan that can be used by teachers, volunteers or adapted for students to run an in person or digital assembly on clean air.</p>
<p>Your Notes Next action for eco councillors...</p>		

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<p>Sign Up to the Let's Go Zero Campaign</p> <p>Pathway: Campus</p>	<p>Call for action from the government to support schools in being zero carbon.</p> <p>Co-benefits</p> <p>Join a movement of schools. The campaign calls for policy change and supports schools to reduce their carbon footprint.</p>	<p>Let's Go Zero is a campaign demanding government backing for zero carbon schools. Every school that signs up is pledging to work towards a more sustainable future, while also urging the government to support this vital mission.</p>
<p>Your Notes We have joined the Let's Go Zero Campaign and are going to use some of their resources to help us achieve other goals.</p>		
<p>Start a regular uniform swap shop</p> <p>Pathway: Community</p>	<p>Have a regular date (once a week/month?) when the uniform swap shop is open for people to bring and swap clothes that are too big/small/finished with</p>	<p>Decisions to be made...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who will run this • when will it happen • where will it happen • where will it be stored (U&K shop?)

Actions you already do

Implement traffic restrictions outside the school gate
Pathway: Culture

