

Your School's Climate Action Plan

Whitechapel Primary School - 05/12/25

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Take action against habitat loss by developing habitats in your local area  Pathway: Community	We share the UK with around 88,000 different species of animals, plants and fungi. All playing a key role in balancing our ecosystems. Developing and protecting habitats is essential to preserving biodiversity. Co-benefits Increases biodiversity and gets students out in nature which has a positive impact on wellbeing.	In this lesson provided by Young Citizens, students will learn about the importance of habitats and explore endangered British species and the threats to their habitat. Students will be guided through ways in which they can take action against habitat loss by developing the habitats in their local area.
Your Notes In 2024-2025, we applied for funding from a local trust to improve the garden area further but were unfortunately not successful. However, we did secure funding for a seating area to allow children from both school and pre-school to sit and enjoy listening to stories in the garden. In 2025-2026, we are aiming to relocate the minibeast house to another area of the garden, replant the mint and herbs into containers (to avoid unwanted spread) and plant a variety of insect friendly flowers into the garden to encourage a greater range of insects to the garden. In addition, we hope to plant more vegetables to teach the children about the seasonality of food.		
Promote active travel on the school run  Pathway: Culture	1) Start a walking bus Work with parents/carers to set up walking buses. A walking bus is a group of children and adults who walk to school along a set route, picking up more students along the way. When done on a regular basis, adults can take it in turns to accompany the walking bus. 2) Create and share a map of low pollution walking routes to school A walking zone is a defined area around the school within which children and families are encouraged to walk. Work with students to use mapping software to create a map of low pollution walking routes within the walking zone, and distribute this across the school community. 3) Launch a week-long active travel challenge to encourage your students to try walking or cycling to school By trying walking and/or cycling to school as part of a fun challenge week, new travel habits can be formed as families and students experience the benefits of active travel. Co-benefits Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.	Living Streets hosts an annual Walk to School Week. Living Streets' 'Walking Zones' lesson plan involves children in the set up of a walking zone. Use the 'Creating a map of low pollution walking routes' guide to lead your students through a map-making activity. Take a look at our case study of a school using Clean Air Day to launch their brand-new walking bus as a way to reduce children's exposure to pollution. Download Clean Air Day's the 'How to: Organise a walking bus to school' guide or 'Walking bus banner' and get walking. Check out our case study of a Clean Air Route map design helping 96% of children to walk to school in Bow. Sustrans have resources available to help encourage children to cycle to school.
Your Notes Due to the roads surrounding school not having pavements, it is not advisable to promote children to walk to school. Instead, we ensure that all children in KS1 complete their road safety level 1-3 training and Year 5 children complete the bikeability in preparation for them travelling to and from high school. In 2025-2026, with the growing number of children attending the school, we are looking to promote the use of car shares to reduce the number of cars travelling to and from the site each day.		

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Create an outdoor classroom  Pathway: Campus	Teaching outside is good for young people's health, fitness and well-being. An outdoor classroom is about defining an area where learning can occur. It can be as simple as using sawn logs to create a seating area, building a wooden roofed structure or landscaping an amphitheatre. 1) Consider the sites available and the kind of classroom you want to provide. 2) If it is forest school style it can be as simple as sourcing logs and an awning; 3) If you need a wooden structure or the area needs landscaping you will need to find a suitable organisation to deliver your goals. Co-benefits It is good for pupils to gain knowledge of local fauna and flora.	To create your own outdoor classroom you are likely to need sustainably sourced logs and woodchip. Treestation have a Community Benefit Scheme for their sustainably sourced wood-based products. There are also plenty of organisations that can help build structures or re-landscape an area. The Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Sow the City can help create a forest school's area whilst Groundwork can also re-landscape. This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
Your Notes In 2025-2026, we are looking to develop a 'Reading Nook' in the MUGA. Re-purposing an unused equipment storage area into a protected, calm space for quiet activities during lunchtime. Promoting wellbeing and relaxation for those children requiring a quieter environment.		
Students to learn from and be inspired by climate innovators from around the world  Pathway: Curriculum	It is key for students to see and understand they are not alone in caring for nature and the environment to encourage and inspire them to take action. Co-benefits Young people will learn about actions people are taking around the world to tackle the climate crisis.	Share and discuss the case studies, videos and stories from around the world of those who have won the Ashen Climate award.
Your Notes A new focus for 2025-2026 academic year. School to run a Climate Awareness day in 2026 across the whole school - looking at stories from around the world. In addition, year 5 and 6 to visit the local recycling centre.		
Complete a water audit action plan  Pathway: Campus	Carrying out a water audit will help your school to identify where leaks and inefficient water usage is taking place. Co-benefits As well as saving water, this activity will support the school in saving energy and reduce it's water costs. This activity can also help schools achieve their eco awards.	Anglian Water's free water audit pack can help you and your students, reduce water use at school. The audit supports the creation of a water school action plan, collecting data on your school's water use and involving your community.
Your Notes School share water with the Village Hall and the Bowling Green. Completing the audit in 2026, will help school and other users to reduce the amount of water used across the site.		

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Run a Clean Air Day assembly  Pathway: Curriculum	Spread awareness throughout your whole school community on the issue of air pollution and how it impacts our health as well as the environment. Co-benefits This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group.	For Clean Air Day, Global Action Plan created a collection of school resources to inspire schools to create cleaner air. 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.
Your Notes To be incorporated into the Climate Awareness Day in 2026.		
Completed Raise funds for your school or other causes by recycling unwanted clothes  Pathway: Community	When clothing is thrown away it goes to landfill sites. These landfill sites do not provide an atmosphere where clothing can biodegrade which leads to the clothing releasing harmful greenhouse gases. If we recycled 100 million lbs of our pre-loved clothing that would be the same as taking 35,000 cars off of the road. Co-benefits This action redirects and stops unwanted clothes going to landfill, develops students' awareness of textile recycling. Money could be raised for school or a charity.	Recycle 4 School help organise collections of good quality unwanted clothing by encouraging parents, students and staff to recycle their unwanted items, and make a BACS payment into your school fund within 5 working days of the collection. The Recycle 4 School scheme is designed to develop students awareness of textile recycling while providing them with a platform to generate much needed funds for their chosen cause. Alternatively, be creative! Contact the Stitched Up team here, and enquire about a re-fashioning session at your school.
Your Notes This initiative was led by the PTFA in 2024-2025 with varying degrees of success. This academic year 2025-2026, we are aiming to expand the shop to include coats as well as uniform as these are often a high costed item when sourcing uniform.		

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Completed Organise school staff CPD sessions relating to Climate and Sustainability  Pathway: Curriculum	Climate change and sustainability is a big topic, and we are not expected to know all the answers. However, whatever your role in a school and stage of your journey you are at, there is more training that you can do.	UK Schools Sustainability network have created an Inset training video for all Secondary school staff and includes thoughts, ideas and tips from over 30 individuals from across the UK - including teachers, students and representatives from various organisations - culminating in a call to action from Lord Jim Knight, former Minister of State for Schools. It is aimed at secondary schools and sixth-form colleges but some sections will be relevant to primary schools and other educational settings. All involved has rallied together to produce this short introduction to the issues of climate and sustainability, resources, what you can do and who is out there to support you. There are also various other free and paid (marked by a £) CPD options on the Transform Our World website.
Your Notes Explore CPD on Transform our World website and Nature Park website.		
Completed Students to learn how to save energy in their day to day life  Pathway: Curriculum	When we consume less power, we reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released by factories, conserve the earth's natural resources and protect ecosystems from destruction. By taking steps to reduce our energy intake, we are contributing to a healthier and happier world. Co-benefits Pre-prepared high quality lesson plan and supporting resources.	Young Citizens provide lesson plans through their subscription. In their Saving Energy lesson, students will learn what is meant by the term energy source. They will consider how they use energy in their lives and be introduced to the basic environmental concerns raised when creating electricity from burning fossil fuels or through nuclear reactions. Students will then be shown how they can help the environment through saving energy in their day to day lives.
Your Notes Incorporate learning about how to save energy into Y5/Y6 sustainability day.		

Actions you already do

Create a pond or a wetland in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus

Install low energy lighting



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