

**Decarbonisation and Net Zero Plan**

**Nominated Member of Leadership Staff Responsible for the policy:**  
**Headteacher**

**Nominated Committee of Governing Body Responsible for the policy:**  
**Full Governors**

**Date written:**  
**March 2026**  
**Date agreed and ratified by Governing Body:**  
**June 2026**  
**Date of next review:**  
**June 2028**

**This policy will be reviewed every two years, and following any concerns and / or updates to National and Local guidance or procedures**

## Decarbonisation and Net Zero Plan

### **Purpose**

This plan sets out how the school will reduce carbon emissions and work towards achieving net zero. It supports the school's commitment to environmental sustainability and aligns with national climate goals by reducing energy use, improving efficiency, and encouraging sustainable behaviours across the school community

We recognise the importance of addressing climate change and is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. Through responsible management of energy, resources, and procurement, the school will work to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to a more sustainable future.

This policy supports the school's environmental responsibilities and aligns with national efforts to achieve net zero carbon emissions

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, contractors, and visitors using the school premises. It covers all activities that may contribute to the school's carbon emissions, including energy use, travel, purchasing, and waste management.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The school aims to:

- Reduce the schools carbon emissions from buildings, energy use, transport, waste and procurement.
- Improve energy efficiency across the school estate.
- Promote sustainable and environmental behaviours and awareness among pupils, staff, and the wider school community.
- Integrate and embed sustainability and environmental responsibility within school operations and decision-making.
- Support learning about sustainability and climate change within the curriculum
- Work towards net zero carbon emissions over the long term.

### **Baseline Assessment**

The school will establish a baseline of its current carbon footprint by reviewing:

- Energy consumption (electricity and gas)
- Heating systems and building efficiency
- Water usage
- Waste generation
- Staff and pupil travel
- Procurement practices
- Energy bills, utility data, and site audits will be used to identify key sources of emissions.

### **Key Areas for Action**

#### **Energy Efficiency**

The school will prioritise reducing energy consumption through practical measures, including:

- Installing LED lighting throughout the building.
- Using energy efficient equipment

- Ensuring heating systems are properly maintained and efficiently programmed.
- Improving insulation where feasible.
- Installing smart meters and monitoring energy use.
- Encouraging everyone to switch off lights, screens, and equipment when not in use.
- Monitoring energy use and identifying opportunities for improvements

#### **Sustainable Buildings and Infrastructure**

Where funding allows, the school will explore options such as:

- Replacing fossil fuel boilers with low-carbon heating systems when they reach end of life.
- Enhancing insulation and building efficiency
- Installing renewable energy technologies where appropriate (e.g. solar panels).

#### **Sustainable Transport**

The school will encourage low-carbon travel by:

- Promoting walking, cycling, and scooting to school.
- Supporting car-sharing where appropriate.
- Providing cycle storage where possible.
- Reducing unnecessary school travel and encouraging virtual meetings when appropriate.

#### **Waste Reduction**

The school will aim to minimise waste and reduce emissions associated with disposal by:

- Encouraging recycling across the school
- Reducing single-use materials
- Promoting reuse of resources where possible.
- Working with suppliers to reduce packaging.

#### **Sustainable Procurement**

When purchasing goods and services, the school will consider environmental impacts by:

- Choosing energy-efficient and durable products
- Considering lifecycle costs and environmental impact
- Working with suppliers who demonstrate responsible environmental practices

#### **Education and Engagement**

The school recognises that education plays an important role in addressing climate change. The school will:

- Encourage pupils to develop an understanding of environmental sustainability.
- Support initiatives such as eco-clubs or pupil-led sustainability projects.
- Promote awareness of energy saving and waste reduction across the school community.

### **Roles and responsibility**

#### **Governing Body**

The governing body will support the implementation of this policy and review progress periodically.

#### **Senior Leadership Team**

The senior leadership team will oversee the implementation of the policy and ensure sustainability is considered in school planning and operations.

#### **Staff**

All staff are expected to support the aims of this policy by adopting energy-efficient and sustainable practices in their daily work.

#### **Pupils**

Pupils will be encouraged to take an active role in environmental initiatives and sustainable behaviour within the school.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The school will monitor progress through energy usage data, waste reduction measures, and sustainability initiatives. This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure it remains effective and reflects current best practice

### **Continuous Improvement**

The school recognises that achieving net zero is a long-term process. As technologies, funding opportunities, and best practices develop, the school will continue to update and strengthen its approach to decarbonisation.

### **Related Policies**

This policy should be read alongside other relevant school policies, including:

- Procurement Policy
- Sustainability or Environmental Policy
- Estate Management Plan
- Health and Safety Policy