



Climate Action Plan

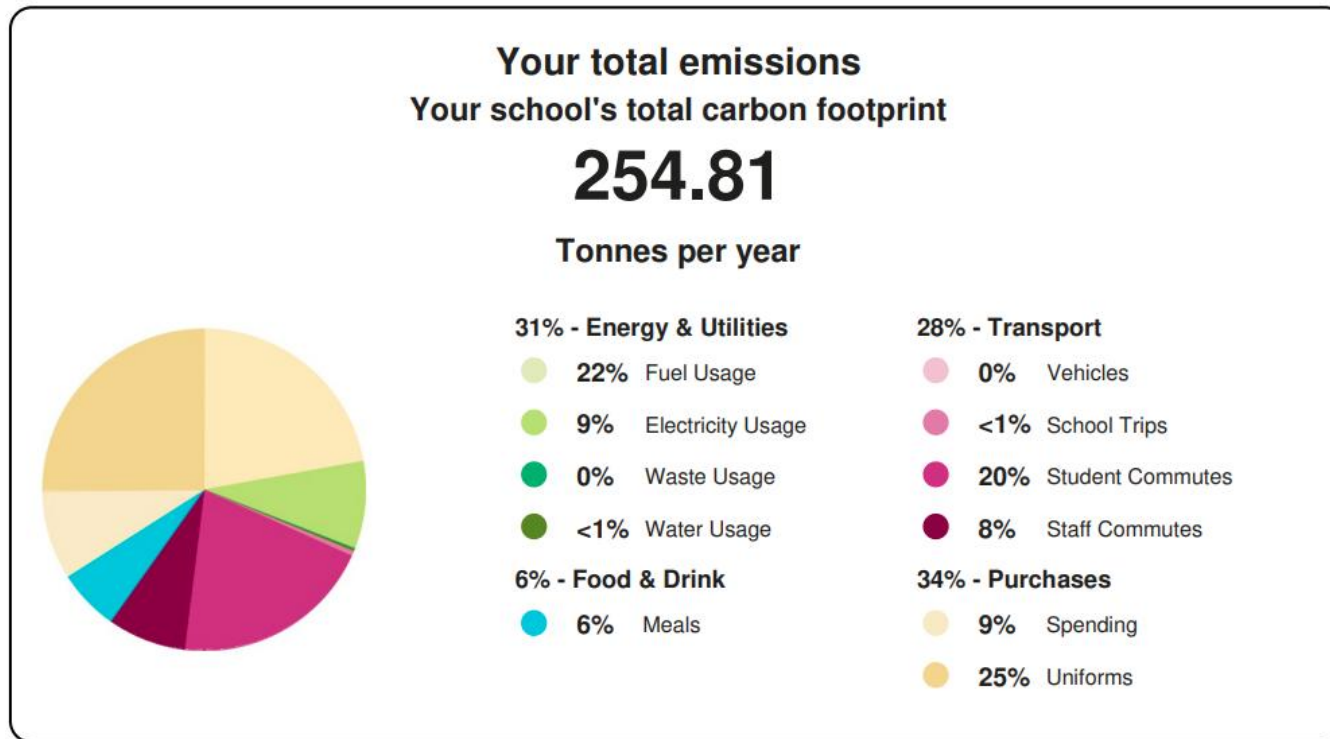
English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy

One year plan: Autumn 2024 – Autumn 2025

Created in collaboration with Let's Go Zero

Your Carbon baseline: 254.81 Tonnes per year

Date of calculation: 26.06.2024



Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency:

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

Action	Start date	Review date	Key stakeholders	Link to School Improvement Plan	Progress Track
Sign up to Let's Go Zero. 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. Useful links Let's Go Zero	N/A	Already completed 2022	SLT member		Already completed 2022
Carbon Calculator: This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting. Useful links Count Your carbon	June 2024	June 2025	Sustainability Lead with support from business manager, site manager and catering lead		Baseline calculated in June 2024 (using 2023 data). New calculation for 2024 emissions to be done in June 2025.
Energy (heating) 1. Move the thermostats (one located in the school hall and the other one by the girls' toilets on main corridor) to a more central location, placed on an interior wall about 5 feet above the floor, for better temperature control. 2. Consider turning off gas heating earlier and allowing residual heat to remain (e.g. turning heater off 45 minutes earlier in an 8-hour day). This could save you around 10% in both usage and cost. 3. Reduce the heating system set temperature to lower than 18°C and continue to monitor classroom temperatures and comfort levels. Best temperatures for schools are: - Normal classrooms: 18°C - Corridors: 15°C	September 2024	December 2024	Site manager with support from SLT and classroom staff	CLM3.2: Leaders and governors embrace and actively promote the bishop's vision for the diocese including our aims to be Carbon Zero by 2030. They are enthusiastic in their response to diocesan policies and initiatives by engaging in active energy monitoring, energy reduction, switch off campaigns and are seeking ways in which to meet ambitious Diocesan targets including ambitious retrofit projects.	In Sept 2024 , Energy Sparks training for staff and looked for ways to reduce energy use. Eco team – weekly checks of windows and doors.

- Areas with high levels of activity (e.g. sports halls): 15°C - Areas with low levels of activity: 21°C - Special needs schools or areas with very young children: 21°C 4. Reposition furniture away from radiators to at least 20 cm, ideally 30 cm to allow the heat to radiate and warm up the space (Classroom 2 and the Hall). 5. Fit radiator screen/guard to exposed plumbed central heating radiators e.g. in Classroom 3. Useful links - Energy Sparks best practice on heating DfE's Guidance on Energy Efficiency for schools					
Energy (management) 1. Establish a school 'power down' policy and remind staff of their responsibility to turn off devices and lights. 2. Appoint Energy Monitors for each class who will monitor activities on a regular basis e.g. checking classroom temperatures and ensuring lights and devices are turned off. 3. Complete a Switch Off Fortnight during the Autumn Term 2024. 4. Make the most of Energy Sparks account to monitor and understand both gas and electricity consumption. Useful links Training Energy Sparks - See 'Let's Go Guide: Run an energy reduction campaign'	September 2024	December 2024	SLT, staff and pupils		Energy Sparks were in school 4.2.25 for training of Eco team Switch off fortnight held and introduced by Eco team
Food 1. Introduce a plant-based/meat-free day once a week, starting with well-known dishes and clever alternatives to encourage uptake.	September 2024	December 2024	Derbyshire Catering Service lead and G Ellis with support from staff and pupils	CLM3.5: Leaders and governors are inspirational witnesses to the Gospel and to Catholic Social Teaching in their direction of the school at every level: this is shown	Not much leeway with this at the moment due to DCC contract and we have to pick one of the current catering menus – Pro Veg?

2. Encourage caterer to reach out to ProVeg for a free menu consultation on plant-based meals. 3. Encourage consumption of greener food choices through assemblies or lesson time. 4. Get children involved in documenting daily food waste quantities so this can be fed back to caterers to acknowledge which food days go down least well and make necessary adjustments to the menu or dishes. Useful links • ProVeg UK School Plates programme				through our decisions surrounding the nourishment of our pupils, staff and community. They embody the Church's preferential option for the poor by ensuring that resources are consciously and effectively targeted at those in greatest need, both materially, through our food banks or sustainable shops, and educationally through our work on food waste. In every one of their decisions, such as having more plant-based meals on our school menus, they demonstrate an exemplary commitment to care for our Common Home, to the pursuit of the common good and to service of those in greatest need.	We would like this to be a focus for 2025/26
Transport 1. Implement one Active Travel Week per term, e.g. Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel in March, Living Streets Walk to School week in May and Cycle to School Week in September. 2. Create and implement a school travel plan which supports cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. 3. Promote staff car sharing where possible. 4. Monitor school's air quality. Useful links • See 'Let's Go Guide: Start an Active Travel Campaign' • Register for Modeshift Stars for help on your school travel plan • Get a free air pollution monitor via Asthma & Lung Clean Air Champions	September 2024	December 2024	Sustainability lead, all staff	CLM3.1: Through actions such as our sustainable travel campaigns, walking busses, cycle schemes and pollution monitoring, pupils gladly embrace their personal responsibility to care for our Common Home, pursue the common good and through their global actions on transport, serve those in need.	• Walking bus continues • 1 x travel smart week held Next step – order air pollution monitor
Waste 1. Clearly label bins consistently across the school.	September 2024	December 2024	G Ellis and Site manager	CLM1.3: As a result of taking part in our actions, such as litter picking, recycling or donating	• New bins in school so consistent in each

2. Support the eco team in delivering an assembly on recycling in school. 3. Consider signing up for Plastic-free Schools programme, Useful links • WRAP offer free universally recognised bin labels to demarcate where recycling and waste should go				pre-loved uniform to our uniform swap shops, pupils flourish as they seek opportunities to grow in virtue. Through leading campaigns, such as minimising plastic waste in the canteens, they gladly embrace their personal responsibility to care for our Common Home, pursue the common good and serve those in need.	classroom for expectations
Procurement 1. Expand on your Uniform Swap Shop opportunities e.g. Summer and Christmas Fairs, Parents Evenings, End of term playground events. 2. Consider carbon footprint and environmental practices of the services/companies you use 3. Include sustainability as part of your criteria for procurement e.g. made of recycled materials, non-toxic or ethically sourced. Useful links • See 'Let's Go Guide: Establish a Uniform Exchange' • Swop Shop clothing swaps in school • School Resources Exchange • Example procurement policy	September 2024	December 2024	G Ellis, SBM with support from PTA and staff		Uniform swap is available to parents at all parent events

Climate Adaptation and Resilience:

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

Action	Start date	Review date	Key stakeholders	Link to School improvement plan	Progress Track
Water 1. Raise awareness around water consumption and efficiency through workshops and displays that may be offered by your water provider e.g. Severn Trent. 2. Access a water audit from your water supplier (Severn Trent) OR use this resource to involve students in carrying out a water audit. 3. As end of life comes to taps and toilets, ensure that the replacements include flow reduction measures to save as much water as possible. Useful links • See 'Let's Go Guide: Prevent water waste'	September 2024	December 2024	Site manager	CLM1.4: Pupils take a leading role in responding to the demands of Catholic Social Teaching and are pro-active in finding ways of responding, locally, nationally and globally to issues surrounding water conservation. They can clearly articulate the theology underpinning their actions to care for our common home, locally through turning off taps and collecting rainwater for our gardens through to global action for all God's children, such as Water Aid.	Severn Trent deliver x 2 assemblies for pupils each academic year linked to raising awareness New taps fitted September 2025 to limit water wastage
Adaptation 1. Plan for and take measures relating to local climate risks and impacts on school estate operations e.g. planting and drainage strategy 2. Write a heatwave policy that addresses areas such as school dress code, passive ventilation measures, PE lessons and slip slap slop campaigns. 3. Ensure all classrooms have sufficient ventilation and monitor CO2 levels. 4. Create a gutter checking/ cleaning/ clearing rota that ensures guttering can cope with higher levels of rainfall.	September 2024	December 2024	G Ellis, site manager and staff		Sunsafe policy in place Caretaker tasked with checking gutters once each term

Useful links					
• joint union heatwave protocol • DfE guidance on hot weather					

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure: Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school estate and beyond					
Action	Start date	Review date	Key stakeholders	Link to School improvement plan	Progress Track
Nature 1. Go chemical free and set aside a 'rewilding' area to truly provide habitat for insects and other wildlife. 2. Increase planting of available areas. Useful links • See Let's Go Guide: 'Let's be bug and bee friendly' • Wildlife Areas for Schools - Planning a Site • Woodland Trust free tree packs	September 2024	December 2024	Site manager	CLM1.4: Through our care for the natural world, our pupils take a leading role in responding to the demands of Catholic Social Teaching and are pro-active in finding ways of responding locally, nationally and globally. They can clearly articulate the theology underpinning their actions such as protecting God's world and caring for its inhabitants. They carry out this mission through wildflower seeding, tree planting and tending our gardens. They play active part in our fundraising for biodiversity projects such as Cafod's.	Tree pack ordered by GEI August 2024 New grasses planted with Tesco Community group September 2024 (funding used from Nature Park)

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

Action	Start date	Review date	Key stakeholders	Link to School improvement plan	Progress Track
Curriculum - Look for opportunities to embed NENP resources in the wider curriculum and school enrichment plan. - Complete a curriculum audit for sustainability. - Provide CPD opportunities for staff on sustainability and climate change. Useful links - See Teach the Future suggested amendments to individual subjects linking the primary curriculum to sustainability. Carbon Literacy training or Climate FRESK MoEE has also compiled a list of staff training opportunities.	September 2024	December 2024	All subject leads		Science in every year group has 2 units of work linked to Sustainability Next step - Food technology units, contact Pro Veg
Green skills - Provide students with more opportunities for engagement and leadership on sustainability projects e.g. gardening, tree planting, wildlife surveys, etc. - Connect with Climate Ambassadors in the Midlands and invite them to do assemblies on green skills and curriculum-linked topics.	September 2024	December 2024	All subject / department leads		Forest school planning for every child in school integrates this into the curriculum
Building a culture of sustainability Set up a sustainability working group comprised of staff members and parents to collaborate on sustainability projects.	September 2024	December 2024	SLT, Local governors, staff		Focus for 2025/26

2. Ensure that policies and procedures are reviewed with sustainability as a criteria across all areas. 3. Communicate sustainability efforts and success via newsletters, website and social media channels and encourage the wider school community to get involved. Useful links • UK Schools Sustainability Network					
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Ashden is registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee.

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