

Climate Action Plan

Dacre Braithwaite Primary School

1 year plan Autumn 2026-27



Carbon baseline = 111.72 tCo2e Calculation: July 2026



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2025-2026

Your Carbon Footprint Report

Your schools total carbon footprint is estimated to be: 121.72 tonnes co2e* per year

Operational area	Emissions area	t co2e*	% of footprint
Energy & Utilities	Fuel Usage	20.5	17%
	Electricity Usage	8.7	7%
	Waste Usage	0	0%
	Water Usage	0.2	<1%
Transport	Vehicles	0	0%
	School Trips	0.7	<1%
	Student Commutes	35.2	29%
	Staff Commutes	9.2	8%
Food & Drink	Meals	19.2	16%
Purchases	Spending	9.6	8%
	Uniforms	18.5	15%



*'t co2e' or 'co2e' tonnes means 'tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent'. Under the GHG protocol, 7 greenhouse gases are tracked and summarised as the equivalent amount of Carbon Dioxide that would produce the same warming effect.

2026-2027

Your Carbon Footprint Report

Your schools total carbon footprint is estimated to be: 111.72 tonnes co2e* per year

Operational area	Emissions area	Scope	t co2e*	% **
Energy, Waste & Water	Fuel	1	8.6	8%
	Electricity	2	7	6%
	Waste	3	0	0%
	Water	3	0.2	<1%
Transport	School vehicles	1	0	0%
	School trips	3	0.9	<1%
	Student commuting	3	55.3	49%
	Staff commuting	3	8.3	7%
Food	Food	3	20.3	18%
Purchasing & Uniform	Purchasing	3	11.1	10%
	Uniform ***	Out-of-scope	0	n/a



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** Percentage of your carbon footprint.

*** Uniform is out-of-scope and therefore not included within the pie chart.

CULTURE AND LEADERSHIP				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
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.				COMPLETE
Calculate your school's carbon footprint using Count Your Carbon This free digital tool allows you to calculate the carbon footprint for your educational setting.				COMPLETE
Set up a sustainability working group Assemble a Sustainability Working Group featuring different stakeholders across the school to collaborate and effect change including SLT, teachers, and children. Ensure one person has oversight, taking the title of 'Sustainability Lead'.	Start: September 2026 Review: December 2026	Sustainability Working Group will be comprised of the Staff team and Eco Team		
Add sustainability goals/ projects/ successes to school website or newsletter Celebrate your achievements and engage your community in your climate action plans by adding a dedicated sustainability page to your school website. You can also include links to Let's Go Zero and other organisations you are engaging with. Update it with photos or student-written blogs if you can.	Start: September 2025 Review: December 2025	Create a Page on the website, add other useful links and resources to it	Completed and added to when resources become available	COMPLETE
Appoint a sustainability focused Governor Appoint a link governor who will work directly with the Sustainability Lead and working group to deliver the Climate Action Plan.	Start: September 2026 Review: December 2026	Finance gov linked to this		

1. Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency

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

ENERGY – BEHAVIOUR CHANGE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Take part in a switch off campaign 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).	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Eco Team	Explore getting motion sensor LED lights Eco Team – design posters to remind everyone to turn off lights especially in the Hall. Eco Team to lead an assembly on this.	Work completed throughout the year. Classes have lights monitors - continue in 2026/7
Monitor energy use on a regular basis (looking at monthly consumption) Looking at consumption using half-hourly data will allow you to identify the pattern of energy use and allow you to optimize your settings as needed.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Administrator	Energy Sparks is a fantastic platform that allows you to track your consumption and engage your pupils on the topic of energy.	Monthly usage is monitored closely – continue in 2026/7
Review your start/stop times and temperature set points for your boilers and for electric underfloor heating Try and avoid out-of-hours heating where possible and consider turning off boilers at 2-3pm and using electric heating where needed if staff are working in school at the end of the day.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher	See notes from your DEC certificate (Recommendations report) which have some useful suggestions. What type of property is the certificate for? – Find an energy certificate – GOV.UK	Start and end times have been adjusted throughout the year leading to a reduction of fuel. Continue to monitor in 2026/7
Implement a power down strategy for electric devices and appliances e.g. sleep settings on computers and projectors and turning off scanners/ printers overnight Implement power-down strategies across the college, e.g. sleep settings on laptops, smart-boards and screens.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Staff	Include fridges/freezers/ water cooler in this strategy, aiming to switch these off for Summer holidays.	This has been adjusted throughout the year. Continue to monitor in 2026/27

Ensure your hot water system has efficient timings and temperature set Ensure that the hot water system is only circulating during the school day and is turned off out-of-hours, at weekends and during holidays (subject to Legionella flushing at the end of long holidays). Hot water should be stored at least at 60°C to prevent Legionella, and the temperature coming out of taps should be no higher than 43°C. A long-term option is to replace the hot water system with point of use electric water heaters which can be much more efficient.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Staff	Look at the timers for the hot water tanks	Start and end times have been adjusted throughout the year leading to a reduction of fuel. Continue to monitor in 2026/7
Staff to follow heating efficiency practices eg turn heating down vs opening windows Give staff clear instructions on how to manage heating in their classrooms, e.g. ensure all teachers know where TRVs are or how to control their classroom thermostat, when to open windows and how to be proactive rather than reactive to overheating issues.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Staff	Class thermometers to track heating Fit thermostats to radiators	Temperatures throughout the school have been tracked daily. Continue to monitor in 2026/7

Actions to consider:

- **Switch to a renewable energy supplier** – for the Trust to consider

ENERGY – BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Review your buildings insulation Review the roof insulation to prevent heat loss, improve energy efficiency and save money. Opt for 'green' insulation where possible, such as wool, aerogel or cotton.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher	You can find a list of accredited installers on the Insulation Assurance Authority 's website. They will be able to come out to survey your school and provide a quote.	Currently, costs are prohibitive. Still looking at this.
Install timer-controlled electric switches e.g. laptop charging banks to reduce energy required to charge or laptop updates overnight Using timer-controlled switches on laptop charging banks to charge them overnight will allow you to take advantage of the cheapest energy rates, while also saving energy by limiting the length of time they are drawing power.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher	Look at charging laptops and chromebooks one day a week e.g. Monday. Ipads and chromebooks to be shut down before returning to the trolley.	Timings for charging have been reduced. Continue to monitor this.
Review state of windows Replace any single glazed windows with double glazing or add secondary glazing to enhance energy efficiency, save money, reduce external noise and create a more accessible learning environment.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Governors / Trust Estates Manager		Ongoing
Review heating in the library Look at replacing the radiator to make it more efficient	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher	Work in the library in 2026 has removed the inefficient convection and electric heaters and installed Infra red heaters in the ceiling. These are much more efficient.	Action completed. Monitor throughout 2026/7.

PROCUREMENT

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Switch to recycled or sustainably sourced paper Purchase paper from sustainable forestry (e.g. FSC or PEFC certified) or recycled paper to reduce the impact of printing. This, combined with printing reduction strategies, can have a beneficial impact on both cost and carbon.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Administrator	Try different recycled paper Reduce paper printing / 2 sided printing	Currently, the photocopier will not take recycled paper – continue to revisit this as paper quality improves.

FOOD

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Arrange a menu consultation through external organisation, e.g. ProVeg Consider where and how plant-based meals are displayed on menus to reduce bias against these options, e.g. by making the vegetarian offer the default or first in the list, and the meat-option as the alternative. Send off your menu to ProVeg for a menu consultation and advice on improving the planet friendly options.	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Administrator	ProVeg run a school plates award which you can achieve by taking steps to 'green' your menu.	This is largely determined by Impact foods. Continue to monitor in 2026/7.
Look at suppliers who deliver fruit to school which is more local e.g. Class 1	Start: July 2025 Review: September 2027	Headteacher / Administrator		Current suppliers are limited. Continue to monitor this.

TRANSPORT				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Not an area of focus at this time due to the rurality of the school and the lack of public transport / footpaths				
Continue to encourage parents to lift share or walk where possible / staff to share lifts				

WASTE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Not an area of focus at this time as we already recycle and compost waste with the Eco Team.				

2. Climate adaptation and resilience

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

ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Not an area of focus at this time.				

3. Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

Creating habitats and adopting practices that will enhance species diversity on the school grounds and beyond

NATURE				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Enrol with The Nature Park (NENP) The NENP aims to embed nature-based learning in the curriculum and encourage children and young people all over the country to take action to improve their site for people and wildlife. The programme provides the support and guidance needed to make this happen, with five key steps in the journey and the actions needed to reach your goals.		Eco Team	Eco Team to lead on this	Action moved to 2026/27
Increase biodiversity by incorporating freshwater habitats into your grounds Develop your outdoor spaces by including small or large pond features.		Headteacher / Staff / Eco Team	Homemade Hoverfly Lagoons Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs & Northants How to create a mini pond The Wildlife Trusts	Action moved to 2026/27
Increase planting of available areas Identify areas in your school grounds which could accommodate planting. This could be natural planting such as hedgerows, trees and wildflower meadows or native plants in borders, planters or pots. Consider the best placement of this planting for accessibility and maintenance.		All Stakeholders	Focus on planting a greater variety of native tree species. Research looking at Apple Day Trees Plant the grassy bank with bulbs and wildflower seeds Increased the planting around the school e.g. planters and down the drive Take part in no-mow-May around the orchard and near the front gate	Action moved to 2026/27

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

CURRICULUM				
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS	NOTES	TRACKER
Complete a curriculum audit & incorporate sustainability Teach the Future have amazing resources on how to link the curriculum to sustainability! MoEE also has very helpful resources on this. Creating a 'sustainability calendar' can also be a nice way to embed learning throughout the year with different topic areas and any nation wide campaigns or events e.g. Big garden birdwatch etc.		Headteacher / Staff / Gardening Club	Eco Team / Gardening Club to look at annual calendar of top tips for learning, pictures of the environment and curriculum resources. A good resource for teaching more about climate justice: Creative for Climate Justice Christian Aid	Action moved to 2026/27
Sign up to Energy Heroes Energy Heroes is a free programme of learning, teaching about energy and climate through numeracy. The team will visit your school to run sessions and assemblies.		Headteacher	Energy Heroes – Enabling school communities across the UK to become models of energy efficiency	Action moved to 2026/27



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