

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Students to take part in a litter survey Pathway: Community Completed annually	Litter not only makes our environment look unpleasant, but it impacts the health of thousands of animals every year, as well as reaching and polluting our oceans and rivers. Co-benefits In the process students will be clearing up litter in their local area.	In Marine Conservation Society's Litter in the Environment lesson plan and worksheets, students will experience litter in the environment first-hand by taking part in a litter survey. Results will then be analysed, looking at the sources and properties of litter, considering how it could impact the environment.
Investigate your school food procurement Pathway: Curriculum Ongoing through DT/PE and PSHE curriculum	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. Co-benefits Encouraging sustainable and healthy eating.	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.
Sign Up to the Let's Go Zero Campaign Pathway: Campus Completed	Call for action from the government to support schools in being zero carbon. Co-benefits Join a movement of schools. The campaign calls for policy change and supports schools to reduce their carbon footprint.	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.
Set up a TerraCycle hub to prevent specific waste streams going to landfill or being incinerated Pathway: Culture	Organising a TerraCycle Hub means school can help others recycle more difficult items which would otherwise go to landfill. TerraCycle is a recycling scheme that asks you to collect hard to recycle waste, such as crisp packets, and remoulds the plastic into something new. 1) School needs to sign up to TerraCycle on-line and find out which waste stream would be most suitable to work with. 2) Decide if the school will become a hub or send materials to a local hub or both. Co-benefits This can reduce your school's carbon footprint.	Hubs can earn points for recycling. One issue is that a stream may be specific to a particular company so difficult to collect. Working with other hubs could be mutually beneficial. This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.



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Do a school energy audit and prioritise the top three actions Pathway: Culture Ongoing	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. 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. 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.	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. This action supports the key area of "our energy supply" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
Students to learn how to save energy in their day-to-day life Pathway: Curriculum Ongoing through curriculum and Collective Worship	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.



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Provide more sustainable school dinners Pathway: Campus Ongoing	Having more sustainable food options can significantly reduce the school's carbon footprint. The provision of sustainable food implies eating less meat and dairy, buying local, seasonal and organic food, purchasing Fair Trade or Marine Stewardship Council fish, wasting less food, growing your own and maintaining a balanced diet. 1) Have discussions around food and climate change with pupils, kitchen staff, the business manager and senior leaders.	Food for Life is The Soil Association's school food programme. Joining costs but it will guide school to more sustainable eating practices. Peasplease is a campaign from the Food Foundation which can help food providers increase the vegetable use in cooking. Organic North is an organic wholesale cooperative. Bite Back is a youth lead campaign organisation. This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
	2) Discuss whether there is a particular programme the school could join.3) Discuss whether changes can be made with your	
	current food provider or needs to change.4) Research alternative providers.Co-benefitsMore sustainable food is often healthier.	



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Set heating to the 'right'	Heating costs increase by around 5-10% for every 1ÌŠC	The National Education Union offers
temperature	increase (Carbon Trust) so setting the right temperature	advice on temperature settings in
88£0	reduces the school's carbon emissions.	schools and workplaces whilst the
Pathway: Campus		Department of Education advice states
	Setting the right temperature for everyone in school can	that cutting back your heating for an
Ongoing	be difficult but the Health and Safety legislation suggests a	hour a day can save another 5-10%
	minimum of 18C in most teaching rooms and 15C in areas	on the bills.
	of circulation. It is also important to consider the times that	
	the heating comes on and off part of effective heat	This action supports the key area of
	regulation.	"our homes workplaces and public
		buildings " which is part of the
	1) Working with the Eco team find out who controls the	GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
	heating.	
	2) Discuss how the temperature is set.	
	3) Make suggestions to reset the temperature controls	
	and that they are adjusted to reflect different uses and	
	activities in different areas or rooms.	
	4) Check timers so they reflect actual hours of use and	
	are set to the right date and time (particularly after the	
	clocks go forward or back).	
	E) Talk to the building's inhabitors to discuss the	
	5) Talk to the building's inhabitors to discuss the	
	changes.	
	Co-benefits	
	It will save school money on heating bills. Can improve	
	the learning environment for students	
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Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
School staff member/s to attend LESS CO2 workshops and implement the energy saving actions learnt COC 2 2 0 0 0 Pathway: Campus Completed but ongoing	The LESS CO2 sustainable schools programme is a free energy efficiency programme available to any UK school for teachers and non-teaching staff. Through a series of 4 half day workshops spread through the year, peer mentoring, expert advice and resources, staff are empowered and equipped to make changes and improvements to their school. Co-benefits School staff feel inspired and empowered to reduce the	Scroll down on the schools page of the LESS CO2 website to find out how Thornhill Primary School made big energy savings.
	schools CO2 emissions. As well as lowering CO2 emissions, the outcomes will also reduce energy usage and save money on bills.	



Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Teach students about air pollution through the curriculum Pathway: Campus Ongoing annually	1) Organise an air quality focused assembly for your school An assembly is a great way to reach the whole school at once with information about air pollution. A class that has been learning about air quality could present their findings to the rest of the school. The assembly could also be used as a moment to launch other initiatives, such as a no-idling campaign. 2) Lead action-focused lessons on air pollution with students of all ages Engage your students through activity kits, lesson plans, and tailored PowerPoint presentations. Co-benefits This is a good opportunity for students to gain confidence in presenting to a group. The 'ready to go' resources have been reviewed by teachers and link to the current curriculum, assisting teachers through lesson plans and multi-subject topics.	Clean Air Day's 'assembly pack' provides ideas and materials to help you run an air pollution assembly. Browse our collection of curriculum-linked teaching resources that explore the topic of air pollution for different key stages. These include curriculum-based resources for subjects including PSHE, Geography, Maths, Science, Design, Art and English. Clean Air Day schools resources have been designed specifically for students in Key Stages 1, 2 and 3. Healthy Air offer creative and practical teaching activities for Key Stages 1 and 2 with links in to National Curriculum Science, Maths and English. Greenpeace has created an air pollution teaching pack for Key Stage 2 Introduce your students to the topic of air pollution through this fun, Lego stop-motion video from Arup. Grandma's Footsteps, and associated learning resources, is a story that encourages children to take note of changes in the environment around them, and to imagine what they want their own future to look like.
Carry out an energy audit at your school Pathway: Campus Completed - ongoing	Sign Up to Energy Sparks for free to access various energy activities for your school, one of which helps you to run an energy audit. Co-benefits Cost savings from energy bills, reduction in local air pollution from reduction in gas combustion.	Check out the various case studies from schools who have taken part in Energy Sparks.



Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Prevent water wastage by installing timed taps Pathway: Campus Completed – ongoing Revisited through Heart of the Earth Collective Worship	If the school taps are drippy, leaking and difficult to turn on and off the likelihood is that water is being wasted. A school using water saving devices can reduce their water consumption by 50%. Replacing the old taps with timed taps is one device likely to help make savings. 1) Do a water audit to find out how much water you use and to discover where water is being wasted. 2) If the toilet taps are the problem research with the Eco team the costs of new taps against the costs of wasted water. Co-benefits It saves money and reduces clean water production which has a carbon footprint.	Waterwise provide water saving advice and Anglian Water have a good water audit. If you want to save water and energy remember that timed taps work on pressure whilst automatic taps need energy from a battery. This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
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.
Receive a free talk or workshop from WaterAid Pathway: Curriculum	It is important for students to understand that even in the rainy UK it is important to look after our water.	WaterAid's trained speakers are experts in water, sanitation and hygiene. Speakers can give an online talk or workshop to your group about WaterAid's work to tackle COVID-19, climate change, periods and more! Book a free talk or workshop.
Hold a Fairtrade assembly Pathway: Curriculum	Present an assembly to help raise awareness and understanding of Fairtrade across the whole school. Fairtrade have a range of assemblies to choose from in the assembly section of their teaching resources library or you could make one of your own. Co-benefits The student-led role play assemblies support children to become confident individuals, boost self-esteem and develop empathy.	A Fairtrade message from Lothersdale Primary School in West Yorkshire.



Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Invite a visitor to speak about Fairtrade Pathway: Curriculum	Are you and your school new to Fairtrade and want to learn more? There are many people that you could invite to speak at your school your local Fairtrade community group may have somebody who would like to come and speak to pupils about Fairtrade. You could get in touch with a local Fairtrade-supporting supermarket to see if they have somebody who can talk about Fairtrade in your school. It is also possible to request a visit from a member of staff from the Fairtrade Foundation using the request form. Co-benefits Your students can hear from an expert on Fairtrade.	You can find out where your nearest Fairtrade Community Group is on this map.
Become a FairAware School Pathway: Curriculum	Begin your Fairtrade journey by becoming a FairAware school. FairAware is the first Fairtrade Schools Award and is about finding out where your school is in terms of understanding Fairtrade and using Fairtrade products. Your FairAware Award will last for two years giving you plenty of time to renew or think about moving on to the FairActive Award.	The following lesson kits, films and Fairtrade activities can support you and your school in understanding FairTrade.
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.



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Include the school's carbon reduction plan in the school plan Pathway: Culture	By putting your carbon reduction plan into your school plan it is at the heart of the school's planning. 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. 1) The school leadership must agree as it is to ensure that carbon reduction is not marginalised. 2) Once agreed run an audit to discover what needs to be prioritised. 3) Ensure the actions on the carbon reduction plan are regularly reported on.	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. 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.
Set up a Goals for Good programme Pathway: Culture	Goals for Good is a series of four, one-hour sessions to help young people explore how our values impact on our wellbeing and environment. It draws from research into positive psychology and sustainability to consider what really does, and doesn't, make us happy. Exploring feelings about what we own, and how we choose to spend our time, the course offers an approach to goal setting which cares about values, wellbeing and our planet. Co-benefits Students are able to reflect and recognise what they really care about and make positive decisions and goals going forward that are good for them and the planet.	Watch the following 90 second video to find out why Goals for Good was created. Meet Paddy and Emily, previous participants of the programme, to hear what they thought of the programme.



Lew Trenchard C of E Primary School – 15/3/2024

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Run a Switch-off campaign Pathway: Community	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.	Eco Schools run Switch-off Fortnight every Autumn term and if you join The Pod you can access lots of support materials.
	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?	This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.
	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.	
Run a Fairtrade Campaign CO CO Pathway: Community	Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy.	Take a look at Fairtrade's Take Action pages and see if there are any national campaigns that your school would like to be involved with or perhaps younger pupils could create a campaign to encourage staff to
	Co-benefits	switch to Fairtrade tea and coffee in
	Children who have taken part in a campaign understand their own sense of agency to create change.	the staffroom. Take part in Fairtrade Fortnight!
	Running a campaign can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement	

Actions you already do

Improve the facilities at school to encourage more people to walk, scoot or cycle Pathway: Community

Take action against habitat loss by developing habitats in your local area – Love our School Pathway: Community

Sign up to the TOW newsletter, to keep up to date with the latest news, events and resources

Pathway: Community

Reduce non-food waste in the dining room

Pathway: Culture

Created an outdoor classroom – Field to fork project



Lew Trenchard C of E Primary School - 15/3/2024

Pathway: Campus

Get composting to reduce green waste

Pathway: Campus

Host an environmental event on a topic of your choice at your school, including families in the school community

Pathway: Community

Created dipping ponds in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus

Designated No Mow Zones in the school grounds

Pathway: Campus
Planted trees
Pathway: Campus

Take part in RSPB's Wild Challenge

Pathway: Campus

Create your own sustainable water gardens to grow your own fruit and veg

Pathway: Campus

Invest in heating controls from radiator thermostats to building solutions

Pathway: Campus

Install double or triple glazed windows

Pathway: Campus

Organise school staff CPD sessions relating to Climate and Sustainability

Pathway: Curriculum

Explore how your local area connects to the ocean and how litter travels from sources on land to the sea

Pathway: Curriculum

Hear from an expert on climate change

Pathway: Curriculum

Help your students cycle/scoot to school

Pathway: Culture

Install low energy lighting

Pathway: Campus

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