

WINGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Policy Statement for Climate Action

Subject leader: Mrs N Burke

Date formulated: Sept 25

Date reviewed: Sept 26

Intent:

Wingrove Primary School is committed to being a sustainable and environmentally friendly school. We aim to reduce our carbon footprint and implement, as well as develop practices which will help our pupils, staff and the wider community to foster an awareness and understanding of the need for Climate Action.

Wingrove has a duty to prepare future generations with the knowledge and skills to manage the world's resources wisely. Pupils are supported and enabled to develop an active interest in caring for all-natural environments and we hope to encourage each pupil to recognise their role in attending to the future of the planet through local and national climate campaigns.

Our aim is to manage and maintain our school environment to create an example of how to respect and care for the environment. Wherever possible pupils and staff are encouraged and expected to adopt sustainable practices.

Education for sustainable development should give pupils a greater understanding of both natural and human systems through a range of immediate environmental experiences that engage their senses, emotions and thinking. It should enable the Wingrove School community to develop a life ethic that values all people and the natural environment. Ultimately it should ensure that each pupil, staff member and the wider community understands and respects their environment through climate action, both inside and outside of school.

Specific Policy Aims:

- Develop staff knowledge and skills in climate action.
- Empower pupils to lead on climate action.
- Provide opportunities for practical, hands-on climate action.
- Improve the energy efficiency of the school building.
- Infuse sustainability issues across all areas of the curriculum.
- Reduce the amount of food waste in and around school.
- Ensure compliance with the new March 2025 recycling regulations.

Implementation:

At Wingrove, Climate Action is integrated effectively throughout all aspects of our school via staff, Climate Action Champions and School Council. It can be seen embedded throughout school in routines, daily initiatives as well as all aspects of the school environment. Using local, national and global climate related projects, staff empower children to lead on climate action, through climate related projects and initiatives. Here children are provided with opportunities for practical, hands on climate action and whole school sustainability projects infuse awareness of sustainability issues across all areas of the curriculum, particularly opportunities to promote early writing for a purpose and enhancing Forest School to take learning outdoors.

At Wingrove we firmly believe that empowering staff, pupils and the wider community to become Climate Action Champions positively promotes cultural, social, and emotional awareness and understanding, as well as promoting a sense of responsibility and identity. This supports the children's rounded perspective of Climate Action across the world and supports their holistic learning journey which we aim to achieve at Wingrove.

Teaching Methods, Opportunities and Approaches:

As responsible and proactive Climate Action Champions, staff, children and the wider community need opportunities to develop knowledge and skills across all areas of school life and beyond this. Climate Action at Wingrove encompasses many opportunities in and around school.

We achieve this by:

- **Developing Knowledge and skills in Climate Action:** Staff are provided with training on climate change, sustainability, and practical steps for the school.
- **Empowering pupils to lead on climate action:** Children are provided opportunities to lead climate-related projects and initiatives. Climate action is incorporated into the school council's remit. Pupils are supported to engage with local and national climate campaigns.
- **Providing opportunities for practical, hands-on climate action:** Our Wingrove school garden/allotment allows pupils to grow food and reduce travel miles. Regular litter picks and conservation activities in the local community as well as citizen science projects help pupils improve their local environment.
- **Continually improving the efficiency of the school building:** We recognise the important role our school environment has upon sustainability issues for the future, as well as local wildlife. By conducting energy audits, implementing energy saving measures, as well as regularly enhancing outdoor areas to create areas of conservation and to further facilitate outdoor learning we are able to implement energy saving measures and support the local wildlife dependent upon the Wingrove School area. This is achieved by mapping and monitoring habitats across the school area and continually striving to work alongside wildlife living with in the school grounds.

Impact:

At Wingrove we are continually assessing our pupils ability to actively make an impact upon Climate Change. Assessment outcomes varying depending upon the length and breadth of each project/initiative (short, medium and long term goals), with many of these initiatives being lifelong commitments to Climate Action. Teachers assess understanding through observation, talking with children, questioning and feedback of initiatives. Assessment outcomes are analysed by climate leaders (Climate Champions, School Council, lead staff) and provide the focus for continued areas of further development within the climate action and sustainability focus.