

## Sustainability and Climate Change Knowledge and Skills organiser at Windmill Hill Academy

Sustainability Lead: Carolyn Carter Sustainability Governor: Adam Matthews



Knowledge and understanding	Skills	Whole School Overview
<p><b>Climate education</b>                      Educating pupils about the impact of humans on our climate and environment, including how this endangers many species of animals and leads to climate disasters. Explore the issues and solutions around climate change and environmental damage.  <i>Geography</i>                      Polar regions/The rainforest/jungle/under the sea                      What differences are there between different locations' climate and geographical features? What are local climate issues, comparisons and initiatives?                      Science: Plants; Animals, including humans; Seasonal Changes – climate comparisons, effects of global warming on weather and animal habitats.                      PSHE: Nutrition and health; Mental health and keeping well; Managing challenges and change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.</li> <li>Learn and understand the three pillars of sustainability – economic, social and environmental.</li> <li>Become critical thinkers – understand various points of view to debate, discuss and form opinions about local, national and global environmental issues.</li> <li>Through geography and science understand the impact of humans on the environment – global warming, endangered animals, climate disasters.</li> </ul>	<p><b>School Vision</b>                      At Windmill Hill Academy, we are 'Inspiring Passionate Lifelong Learners' by providing them with a broad and balanced to inspire and motivate pupils to have high aspirations; provide them with the tools to become assessment-capable learners and be socially responsible within the school and wider community.</p> <p><b>Our school vision for climate education:</b>                      Through pupils learned and lived experiences at Windmill Hill Academy from the Early Years to the end of Key Stage Two, we hope to inspire in our pupils a life-long passion and ambition to improve our environment, to work to reverse climate change and to take care and responsibility for their own actions. We will provide opportunities to develop a broad knowledge and understanding of the importance of nature, sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change and to translate this knowledge into positive action and solutions.</p>
<p><b>Sustainable Development</b>                      We will teach the pupils care and responsibility through working outside in our own grounds to plant and compost, as well as attend annually the Woodlands Centre to learn about climate issues.  <i>Geography: Can you name some of the renewable methods of power in the UK? Can you think of ways to reduce wastage, including water, electricity and general waste? Do you know its carbon footprint? Can you explain how little changes can lead to big impact?</i>                      PSHE: Our health Healthy food choices                      DT Cooking from Foraging/ Cooking and nutrition Harvest Soups and Smoothies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a whole school culture of energy conservation – understand that every unit of energy consumed uses up natural resources on our planet, energy saved means resources saved for our planet! Link with maths topics to work out how much energy you currently use at school and see what happens after you've made some changes.</li> <li>Learn about what we waste in school – food, energy, paper, etc. Investigate sustainable alternatives – talking with school chefs, writing to school catering companies (for example to ask them to send large bottles of milk that can be decanted and sent for recycling rather than individual bottles) and raising awareness with pupils and families.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dispositions and Capabilities</b>                      Our mission is to develop Capability Maturity Children - positively engaged, compassionate, competent young people conscious of the role they play in society, who are curious about the world around them and their place in it.                      Through our school values and learning dispositions we will link our climate learning to the capabilities of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resilience and determination – taking action courageously and not giving up on climate issues.</li> <li>Creativity: come up with solutions and ideas for climate action and sustainability around the school, local community and beyond.</li> <li>Confidence and agency: Through the knowledge and understanding gained about climate issues, be able to argue, persuade and present ideas about climate change and environmental issues.</li> <li>Communication: Share ideas and learning in a range of forms of communication to spread the messages about climate action.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Relationships and leadership: Lead on ideas for climate action, foster good relationships within pupil environment focus groups to work together to succeed.</i></li> <li>• <i>Planning and problem solving: Work together, to plan ideas to solve school environmental problems such as recycling and waste.</i></li> <li>• <i>Managing feelings: Learn how to cope with set-backs and self-regulate feelings when frustrated for example by lack of progress.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Global Citizenship</b>  Pupils will learn about how poorer countries are disproportionately affected by climate change. National and Global Climate news will be shared through lessons, Collective Worship and Picture News assemblies.  <i>Geography: What are rainforest climates like? What are the main problems rainforests face? What is deforestation?</i>  <i>Science: Food Recycling/looking after the world</i>  RE: How should we care for the world and for others, and why does it matter? Link to sustainability. How and why do people try to make the world a better place? / The Creation Story / Implication on what we need to do to reverse climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Understand that some places are special to members of their community.</i></li> <li>• <i>Lead environmental projects and including them in decisions about how the school is run.</i></li> <li>• <i>Take action on environmental issues.</i></li> <li>• <i>Make physical changes around school grounds</i></li> <li>• <i>relate school values to championing sustainable behaviours.</i></li> <li>• <i>Influence local businesses and governments to deliver on climate promises.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Enrichments</b>  We will provide many enrichment activities to inspire pupil to courageous advocacy for example by taking part in global and national campaigns and through meeting climate ambassadors.  Great British Spring Clean  Clean Air Day  Protecting our Planet Day  Climate Warriors Newsletters  Beach trip, including beach clean  Eden Project Trip: environment focus (e.g. deforestation)  Zoo trip: endangered species workshop  Bike-ability  Wild Tribe  Woodland Skills Centre  Earth Action Day  Visits from Climate Ambassadors  Science Days: school energy use / World Futures Project  SW Water workshops  Water Aid workshops  Fair Trade workshops</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity Conservation</b>  Pupils will learn about how important biodiversity is through their science themes. They will learn about how this is threatened by climate change and human actions in animal habitats.  <i>Geography: What are rainforest climates like? What are the main problems rainforests face? What is deforestation?</i>  <i>Science: Living things and their habitats (Rainforest links) Impact of humans on animal habitats – extinction and endangered animals.</i>  <i>Plants and flowers/Animals and minibeasts.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live Explore the natural world around them.</i></li> <li>• <i>Learn how to plant so that our school will provide nectar in all the seasons.</i></li> <li>• <i>Learn how to restore biodiversity in our school grounds and why this is important</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Community</b>  Farm and Country Experience  30 Days Wild/no mow  Walk to School Week  Sustrans Activities  SAMHE Clean Air Project  Raise and Recycle collections</p>

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<p><b>Annual Calendar Events</b></p> <p>August: Harvest plants like tomatoes, lettuce and spinach.</p> <p>September: Great Big Green Week, Recycle Week + Good time to plant flowers like marigolds, lavender and thyme for pollinators.</p> <p>October: Forest School Day, Seed Gathering Season, Build bug hotels and bee hotels for wildlife over the autumn and winter. Put out bird boxes.</p> <p>November: Outdoor Classroom Day, Wear It Wild (all year round) + Good time to plant trees while they're dormant as their roots are less likely to be damaged. Create nature table of fallen leaves, conkers, acorns etc.</p> <p>December: Make and put out bird feeders to feed birds over winter months.</p> <p>January: RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch, Continue to feed birds over winter months. WWF Big Winter Wander</p> <p>February: RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch, World Nest Box Week Fairtrade Fortnight + Great time to sow herbs like rosemary, thyme, sage and chives. Good time to put up bat boxes before bats come out of hibernation.</p> <p>March: Earth Hour, Great Big Schools Clean, Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel + Sow/plant vegetables like carrots, courgettes and potatoes. Keep an eye out for spring flowers in bloom.</p> <p>April: Soil Association Worm Hunt + Good time to sow wildflower seeds. Bird nesting season. Big Battery Hunt (all year round)</p> <p>May: Big Plastic Count, No Mow May, Outdoor Classroom Day, The Great Bug Hunt, Walk to School Week + Plant summer crops such as lettuce, tomatoes and strawberries. Good time to identify tree leaves.</p> <p>June: Wildlife Trust 30 Days Wild, The Great Bug Hunt, Grounds for Nature School BioBlitz + Harvest strawberries, peas, carrots, beetroot and courgettes.</p> <p>July: Butterfly Conservation Big Butterfly Count, Plastic Free July. Look out for migrant birds such as swifts and swallows. Bats most active at this time of year.</p>	<p><b>Whole School Actions (see school action plan):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise school staff CPD sessions relating to Climate and Sustainability.</li> <li>Visitors/Experts into school to talk about Climate Change and Sustainability to inspire pupils.</li> <li>Pupils to learn how to save energy in their day to day life and improve energy use around the school – use natural ventilation and light where possible.</li> <li>Reduce waste – lessen how much paper we use, how much we laminate, how much plastic we use, how much water we use.</li> <li>Implement composting to reduce green waste.</li> <li>Over time improve efficiency of lighting, heating and water systems.</li> <li>Promote active travel to/from school.</li> <li>Try to provide a range of habitats to cover a variety of species – think high and low, from bushes, trees and long grasses to ponds, logs, designating a no mow zone, etc</li> <li>Install special habitats such as insect hotels.</li> <li>For school trips, choose walking if in the local area, or public transport like buses and trains where possible.</li> <li>Set up the use a 'Community Larder' to promote growing own produce linked to Science but also sharing left over produce and not go to waste.</li> <li>Further development of the school garden to use as a habitat, for planting and growing and for using as a Wild Tribe base for outdoor learning. Further source funding to support this.</li> <li>Achieve Eco/Climate Change Leaders Award.</li> <li>Engage with Climate Change Ambassadors - raise aspirations/knowledge: <a href="https://www.stem.org.uk/climate-ambassadors">https://www.stem.org.uk/climate-ambassadors</a></li> <li>Further develop high quality outdoor education e.g. Wild Tribe/ Trust Woodland Skills Centre</li> <li>Continue to deliver initiatives to increase active and safe travel to school to improve wellbeing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Collective Worship</b></p> <p>Through our collective worship and RE teaching, we explore many aspects of awe, wonder and spirituality with the children and how religion promotes taking care of the world and the animals in it.</p> <p><b>Autumn</b></p> <p>British Food Fortnight Harvest National Recycling Week</p> <p><b>Spring</b></p> <p>World Water Day</p> <p><b>Summer</b></p> <p>Earth Day Walk to school week Healthy Eating week</p> <p>Picture News</p>
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	<p>and reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make focus on climate education more visible in school and to parents - website/displays/ community/newsletters/enrichments/event days.</li></ul>	
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*(Geography, Science, RE, History, Other, Vision)*