



Highwood Primary School
Action Plan for Climate Change and Sustainability (developed by Eco-Council and school December 2025)

Topic	Action	Target/Measure	Timescale	Responsibility	Evaluation of action / actual result achieved
Transport	To encourage children to walk, scoot or ride to school	More children walking to school or parking and striding Year 5 pupils take part in Bikeability initiative	Ongoing	Eco council Phase Leader	Children to participate in Sustran initiatives High attendance for Bikeability lessons
Energy	To save energy by switching off whiteboards at lunchtime and at the end of the school day. New 'Energy Monitors' that will turn off class lights and boards when classrooms are empty. Eco team measure energy and see how much we use, identify most costly times and what we can do about it.	Teachers switch off whiteboards. Class monitors nominated to check lights and switches are turned off. Log energy efficiency tactics so far and what is to be done in the future.	Spring term 2026	All teachers Eco-Committee Site Manager	Heating and energy efficiency practices across the school have increased and is making a positive impact.
Global Perspectives	To involve all pupils in an Environment Week in which they consider how their everyday actions affect the environment.	Children to take part in an Environment Week which develops their global perspective. Involvement in WE Change initiative – confirm which charity to support.	Summer term 2026	All classes led by Eco-Council	Working party action plans are in place



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Litter/Rubbish	To provide more bins so that waste can be recycled and sorted. Food Waste Bins.	Better use of bins and more rubbish recycled. Litter picking rota to be set up volunteers encouraged to help.	Autumn term 2026	All classes led by Eco-Council HCC MSAs	Improvement evidence. Tally chart recording the findings demonstrates this.
Paper Waste	Continue to recycle all paper into the blue recycling bins. Reduce the amount of printing that is being done at the photocopiers.	Eco-Council to monitor which classes are recycling paper. How careful are classes with using paper. Track the usage of copying and printing by teachers and the amount of paper that is being used.	Summer term 2026 Ongoing Autumn term 2026	Business Manager All Staff Led by Eco-Council	Monitor the consumption of paper
Food waste	To compost more of the school's food waste. Fruit caddies in the classrooms monitored. Purchase Compost bins.	More school waste, fruit, vegetables and grass cuttings composted. New bins in the staffroom for teabags. New bins for dining hall to recycle food waste at lunchtime. Purchase green bags to put food inside in.	Spring/ Summer term 2026	HCC Hertfordshire Waste Authority	Improvement evidence. Tally chart recording the findings demonstrates this.



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<p>Bio-diversity</p>	<p>To plant vegetables in raised beds, a wildflower meadow, plant trees. Raise the awareness of biodiversity with the pupils of the school. Eco-Council to find out if the gardener contractor uses any chemical pesticides or herbicides and if so, can they be changed? Help children to identify the types of trees, plants, birds and animals around the school. Have keys, etc available for children to use to help identify trees and plants etc Eco-Council to help come up with ideas for activities and lessons that could be taught around the school ground Look at expanding Forest School and linking it more to the curriculum.</p>	<p>More wildlife encouraged on to school grounds. Deeper understanding of appreciating the benefits of growing own produce. Take part in the RSPB Big Bird Watch campaign. Children to take part in activities round the school grounds that involve looking at the different plants and animals and their habitats. Eco-Council to carry out a survey of the types of habitats around the school grounds and share with school. Use this to help identify strengths and what we could do to improve it. Eco-Council to look for alternative pesticides and herbicides if required. Look at Woodland Trust website (and others) for list of activities that could be done outdoors. Teachers to look at the curriculum to see what lesson links can be taught outdoors.</p>	<p>Summer term 2027</p>	<p>Contract school gardener leading with Eco-Council</p> <p>All staff Curriculum Planning to ensure cross curricular links are made</p>	<p>Woodland and outdoor learning areas</p> <p>A thriving school allotment</p> <p>Forest School provision across the school is supporting pupils understanding of climate change and sustainability concerns</p> <p>Wildlife-friendly planting and habitats</p> <p>Planting new trees to further enhance our woodland and support carbon capture</p>
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