Climate Action Plan



Guillemont Junior School

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

At Guillemont Junior School, we believe that small actions can lead to big changes, and we're excited to take steps toward a greener, more sustainable future. Our Climate Action Plan is all about creating a positive impact on the environment while inspiring our students, staff, and families to work together for a cleaner, healthier world.

From reducing waste to saving energy, we are committed to making eco-friendly choices that will benefit not only our school but the community around us. By embracing these efforts, we hope to encourage everyone at Guillemont Junior School to become climate champions and help build a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.

SUMMARY

In progress:	9 items
Not started:	15 items



Section

DECARBONISATION

CARRY OUT A BUILDING ENERGY AUDIT

Conducting a building energy audit helps schools pinpoint areas of energy waste, from heating inefficiencies to unnecessary lighting. Schools can use professional energy assessors or pupil-led monitoring programs to analyse energy usage and recommend improvements. Findings can inform decisions on insulation, lighting upgrades, and behaviour-based energy-saving strategies.

NOT STARTED

DELIVER SOME LESSONS OUTSIDE

Outdoor lessons provide pupils with fresh air and a change of scenery while reducing reliance on indoor lighting and heating. Whether it's reading in a shaded area, conducting science experiments outside, or using school gardens for hands-on learning, outdoor education fosters engagement and sustainability awareness.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS



Section

DECARBONISATION

INSTALL LED LIGHTING

LED lighting is a cost-effective and energy-efficient alternative to traditional incandescent and fluorescent bulbs. By switching to LED lighting, schools can significantly reduce electricity consumption and maintenance costs while lowering their carbon footprint. LED bulbs also generate less heat, improving classroom comfort and reducing the need for air conditioning.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS

RUN A SWITCH OFF CAMPAIGN

A switch-off campaign raises awareness about energy consumption and encourages simple behavioural changes to reduce waste. Schools can run competitions, put up reminder posters, and conduct audits to track energy savings. Engaging pupils through classroom discussions and real-time energy monitoring can make energy efficiency a long-term habit.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS



Section

DECARBONISATION

TRAVEL SURVEY

A travel survey helps schools gather data on pupil and staff commuting habits. By understanding travel patterns, schools can identify opportunities to encourage more sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling, carpooling, or using public transport. This information can support decisions on bike rack installations, road safety improvements, and incentive programs for eco-friendly commuting.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS

UPGRADE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES TO ENERGY-EFFICIENT ALTERNATIVES

Schools can significantly reduce electricity consumption by upgrading to energy-efficient appliances, including LED lighting, low-energy projectors, and efficient kitchen equipment. Energy Star-rated devices and appliances use less power, lowering operational costs and environmental impact. Schools should prioritise replacing older, inefficient devices first to maximise savings.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS



Section

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

PLAN A SCHOOL-WIDE ENERGY REDUCTION CHALLENGE

Engaging pupils and staff in an energy-saving challenge builds awareness and encourages sustainable habits. Schools can track electricity consumption and reward classrooms that achieve the highest reductions.

NOT STARTED

PLANT TREES TO CREATE SHADED AREAS

Planting trees strategically around the school campus provides natural cooling, reducing the need for artificial cooling systems during hot months. Trees also improve air quality by filtering pollutants, enhance biodiversity by providing habitats for birds and insects, and create inviting outdoor learning spaces. As they grow, trees contribute to carbon sequestration, offsetting a portion of the school's emissions while simultaneously improving pupil wellbeing.

NOT STARTED



Section

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

WORK WITH SUPPLIERS TO REDUCE PACKAGING WASTE

Collaborate with vendors to minimise packaging materials. Long Description: Schools can request that suppliers reduce unnecessary packaging in product deliveries. This can include bulk purchasing to limit plastic wrapping and encouraging the use of recyclable or compostable materials.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

BUILD A SCHOOL POND FOR WILDLIFE

School ponds provide essential habitats for amphibians, insects, and birds, improving local biodiversity. They also offer a hands-on educational resource for pupils to study aquatic ecosystems, life cycles, and conservation. Proper maintenance ensures the pond remains a thriving habitat.

NOT STARTED

BUILD AN INSECT HOTEL

Log piles and disused wood pallets can be used to create a natural habitat for insects, amphibians, and fungi, enhancing biodiversity and promoting decomposition processes. They can be strategically placed in school gardens to serve as learning tools for ecology studies.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

CARRY OUT A NATURE SURVEY

Schools can conduct nature surveys to document the species of plants, insects, and animals found on school grounds. This information can help identify areas for biodiversity improvement, such as adding nesting boxes, planting native species, or reducing pesticide use. Engaging pupils in biodiversity monitoring promotes conservation awareness and scientific curiosity.

NOT STARTED

CREATE A SCHOOL POLLINATOR GARDEN

A school pollinator garden provides a habitat for bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects. By planting native wildflowers and nectar-rich plants, schools can contribute to biodiversity and support local ecosystems. These gardens also serve as valuable outdoor learning spaces where pupils can observe pollination in action and learn about the role of insects in food production.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

INCREASE GREEN SPACE

Schools can transform unused or paved areas into green spaces by planting native plants, installing grass patches, or creating small gardens. Increasing green space improves air quality, provides habitats for wildlife, and creates healthier environments for students. Green spaces can also serve as outdoor learning areas, promoting environmental education.

NOT STARTED

PARTICIPATE IN THE RSPB BIRDWATCH

Schools can engage pupils in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Birdwatch, an annual citizen science event where participants record and report bird sightings. This initiative helps develop observation skills, raises awareness of biodiversity, and contributes valuable data for conservation efforts. Schools can integrate this activity into science and geography lessons to reinforce learning.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

SIGN YOUR SCHOOL UP TO EDUCATION NATURE PARK

Schools can participate in local or national education nature park programs to connect pupils with nature-based learning experiences. These programs provide hands-on engagement with biodiversity, conservation, and sustainability. By participating, pupils gain a deeper appreciation of the environment, and schools can access valuable teaching resources and support for outdoor learning initiatives.

NOT STARTED

WORK WITH THE PUPILS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON HOW THE SCHOOL SITE SHOULD LOOK

Schools can involve pupils in decision-making about their learning environment, ensuring that sustainability considerations are incorporated. Whether through workshops, surveys, or school councils, pupil input can lead to more effective green space planning, improved outdoor learning areas, and projects that align with their needs and interests. Involving pupils also increases their sense of ownership and responsibility for the school environment.

NOT STARTED



Section

BIODIVERSITY

GET A COMPOST BIN TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE

Composting helps reduce landfill waste while creating nutrient-rich soil for school gardens. Schools should consider site suitability, maintenance requirements, and pest prevention strategies. Composting can also be incorporated into science lessons, providing pupils with hands-on learning about decomposition and soil health. Schools with kitchen facilities can work with catering teams to compost food scraps, further reducing waste.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS



Section

CLIMATE EDUCATION & GREEN SKILLS

DEVELOP AN OUTDOOR LEARNING PROGRAM FOCUSED ON NATURE

Outdoor learning programs provide pupils with hands-on experiences in nature, teaching them about local ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation. Schools can create learning gardens, conduct nature walks, or collaborate with conservation groups to enhance pupil engagement with the environment.

NOT STARTED

HOST A SUSTAINABILITY-THEMED ASSEMBLY EACH TERM

Hosting a sustainability-themed assembly each term ensures that pupils remain engaged with environmental topics. These events can feature guest speakers, pupil-led presentations, and school-wide challenges to encourage participation. Assemblies help build a culture of sustainability and reinforce its importance throughout the school community.

NOT STARTED



Section

CLIMATE EDUCATION & GREEN SKILLS

LAUNCH A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNTE CHALLENGE

Schools can organise competitions and incentives to promote walking, cycling, or public transport use instead of cars. This helps cut emissions, reduce traffic congestion, and encourage healthier lifestyles.

NOT STARTED

CREATE A SCHOOL ECO COMMITTEE

A school eco committee gives pupils the opportunity to lead sustainability projects, influence school policies, and advocate for environmental improvements. This initiative fosters leadership, encourages responsibility, and ensures sustainability remains a core focus in school decision-making.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS



Section

CLIMATE EDUCATION & GREEN SKILLS

IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Schools can work with suppliers to source uniforms made from organic, recycled, or ethically produced materials. Encouraging second-hand uniform sales and repair workshops can further reduce waste and environmental impact.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS

ORGANISE A WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Encouraging pupils and staff to walk, bike, or use public transport instead of driving can reduce emissions and improve local air quality. A Walk to School Week helps raise awareness about the environmental and health benefits of active travel.

Started: 12th Sep 2025

IN PROGRESS

