

# **Sustainability, Leadership and Climate Action Plan**

**2025/26**

**All Saints Catholic School**



“We are all one in Christ, our mission and our responsibility is to recognize all individuals in our community as part of the body of Christ and to value them accordingly in our treatment of them, thriving and progressing in a spirit of togetherness” (1 Cor. 12:29)

# All Saints Catholic School

## Sustainability, Leadership and Climate Action Plan

### Our Catholic Mission and Call to Stewardship

At All Saints Catholic School, our commitment to sustainability grows directly from our faith. Catholic Social Teaching reminds us of our shared duty to protect God's creation and uphold the dignity of every person. Pope Francis, in *Laudato Si'*, called the whole human family to care for our "common home," recognising that the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor are one.

In this spirit, our school is called to lead. We believe that every learner, member of staff, and family has a role to play in living out this mission through responsible choices, wise use of resources, and a heartfelt respect for the world God has entrusted to us.

Our Sustainability and Climate Action Plan sets out how we will take this forward clearly, collaboratively, and with measurable impact.

In line with national expectations, our plan is built on the **four key pillars**:

1. **Adaptation and Resilience**
2. **Biodiversity and Nature**
3. **Climate Education and Green Skills**
4. **Decarbonisation and Net Zero**

We know that schools that succeed in sustainability have **holistic leadership**, clear structures, strong data, and a long-term commitment. All Saints is determined to continue as such a school.

# 1. Leadership for Sustainability

We know that settings make the greatest progress when responsibility for sustainability is clearly led, supported, and embedded. At All Saints, we have established:

- **A Sustainability and Climate Leadership Team**, with the authority and expertise to coordinate whole-school action; SLT, Governors, Site Team, Pupil Body.
- **A dedicated Senior Leader for Sustainability**, ensuring our work is strategic, faith-led, and aligned with national guidance; Mr N Pauro, First Deputy Headteacher.
- **A student Council**, empowering pupils to lead, influence, and model positive change.
- **Regular reporting to Governors**, ensuring constructive accountability and long-term commitment.

Strong leadership enables us to:

- Build confidence among staff and students in understanding climate challenges.
- Create a culture where sustainability is considered in every decision.
- Share good practice across our partner schools and wider networks.
- Use data intelligently to identify priorities and track progress.
- Bring together related work—school travel, waste reduction, wellbeing, capital improvements—into one coherent plan.

## 2. Our Four Key Pillars

The Department for Education highlights four core pillars for an effective Climate Action Plan. Below, we outline our commitments in each area and how our Catholic ethos shapes our approach.

## Pillar 1: Adaptation and Resilience

### *How All Saints is preparing for and responding to the impacts of climate challenges*

Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, we recognise that caring for creation means safeguarding our community—especially the most vulnerable—from the growing impacts of a changing climate.

We will:

- Conduct regular **risk assessments** for heatwaves, storms, flooding, and poor air quality.
- Improve **building ventilation and shading** to keep classrooms safe in extreme weather.
- Review and strengthen our **water management**, ensuring efficient systems and reducing wastage.
- Create **resilient outdoor spaces** that provide shade, safer surfaces, and protection during high-temperature days.
- Integrate climate preparedness into our **health and safety planning**, emergency procedures, and staff training.

These actions ensure our school remains safe, calm, and ready to adapt as conditions change.

## Pillar 2: Biodiversity and Nature

### *Protecting and enhancing wildlife and green space within our school community*

We believe creation is a gift to be nurtured, not exploited. Protecting biodiversity is an act of faith, hope, and love.

We will:

- Expand and protect **wildflower areas**, pollinator pathways, and natural hedgerows.
- Develop **student-led growing spaces**, such as vegetable beds, outdoor learning zones, and reflection gardens (St Francis Peace Garden).

- Install and maintain **bird boxes, insect hotels, and habitat shelters** to encourage wildlife.
- Manage our grounds sustainably—reducing chemical use, planting native species, and caring for soil health.
- Partner with local organisations, parishes, and environmental groups to support wider community biodiversity where appropriate.

Through these actions, we hope to give our students direct contact with the beauty and responsibility of God's creation.

## Pillar 3: Climate Education and Green Skills

### *Helping learners understand climate change and prepare for a sustainable future*

Every child has the right to understand the world they inherit—and the tools to shape it for the better.

We will:

- Embed **climate learning across the curriculum**, from Science and Geography to RE, Citizenship, and the Arts.
- Highlight **Catholic Social Teaching** on creation, care for the poor, and stewardship.
- Offer **student leadership programmes**, volunteering opportunities, and School Council initiatives.
- Build partnerships with local colleges, universities, charities, and employers to introduce learners to **green careers and skills**.
- Provide staff with training so that climate education remains accurate, engaging, and hope-filled—not overwhelming.

Our goal is to form young people who understand sustainability deeply and live it confidently.

## Pillar 4: Decarbonisation and Net Zero

### *Measuring, reducing, and ultimately eliminating our carbon emissions*

In solidarity with the global Church and national commitments, All Saints is taking meaningful steps toward carbon reduction.

We will:

- Understand our **whole-school carbon footprint**, including energy, travel, waste, and procurement.
- Prioritise actions using real data and evidence.
- Improve the **energy efficiency of our buildings**, including lighting, heating controls, insulation, and renewable technologies.
- Reduce water consumption and monitor leaks or inefficiencies.
- Strengthen our **recycling, re-use, and waste-reduction systems**, involving students wherever possible.
- Encourage **active and sustainable travel** for staff and students.
- Seek funding and grants that support long-term net-zero ambitions.

## Conclusion: Our Shared Mission

This Climate Action Plan is a living document. It reflects an ongoing, whole-school mission grounded in faith, leadership, and a commitment to the common good.

**Through prayer, action, education, and community, All Saints Catholic School will continue to:**

- Protect God's creation
- Empower our students
- Strengthen our resilience
- Reduce our impact on the environment
- Build a culture of hope, responsibility, and sustainability

It will be reviewed each year to reflect:

- progress made
- new technologies
- student and staff voice
- national expectations
- the evolving needs of our school community

Together, we take up Pope Francis's invitation, the Catholic Church's call, to become caretakers of our common home, acting out of love.

At All Saints Catholic School, sustainability is not an optional extra, it is part of our Gospel witness. Through this plan, we commit to building a culture where staff, students and families work as one community, caring for our common home and living out the message that creation is a precious gift from God.

Together, in the spirit of *Laudato Si'*, we strive to be:

**"Instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to their own culture, experience and talents."**

May this work strengthen our school, protect our planet, and inspire our young people to become leaders of hope.