Your School's Climate Action Plan

Bryn Offa CE Primary School - 07/01/26

Your Action	In a bit more detail	Looking for inspiration
Students to take part in a litter survey Pathway: Community	Litter not only makes our environment look unpleasant, but it impacts the health of thousands of animals every year, as well as reaching and polluting our oceans and rivers. **Co-benefits** In the process students will be clearing up litter in their local area.	In Marine Conservation Society's Litter in the Environment lesson plan and worksheets, students will experience litter in the environment first-hand by taking part in a litter survey. Results will then be analysed, looking at the sources and properties of litter, considering how it could impact the environment.
Put on a Fairtrade event Pathway: Community	Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy. **Co-benefits** Holding an event can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement.	Once your students have learnt about Fairtrade whether that be through the teaching resources or by having a speaker visit the school. The next step would be to take action by running a Fairtrade event. This could be a Fairtrade bake sale, a Fairtrade fashion show or running a stall at a local event to raise awareness of Fairtrade.
Receive a free talk or workshop from WaterAid Pathway: Curriculum	It is important for students to understand that even in the rainy UK it is important to look after our water.	WaterAid's trained speakers are experts in water, sanitation and hygiene. Speakers can give an online talk or workshop to your group about WaterAid's work to tackle COVID-19, climate change, periods and more! Book a free talk or workshop.
Sign Up to the Let's Go Zero Campaign Pathway: Campus	Call for action from the government to support schools in being zero carbon. **Co-benefits** Join a movement of schools. The campaign calls for policy change and supports schools to reduce their carbon footprint.	Let's Go Zero is a campaign demanding government backing for zero carbon schools. Every school that signs up is pledging to work towards a more sustainable future, while also urging the government to support this vital mission.

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Promote active travel on the school run Pathway: Culture	**1) Start a walking bus** Work with parents/carers to set up walking buses. A walking bus is a group of children and adults who walk to school along a set route, picking up more students along the way. When done on a regular basis, adults can take it in turns to accompany the walking bus. **2) Create and share a map of low pollution walking routes to school** A walking zone is a defined area around the school within which children and families are encouraged to walk. Work with students to use mapping software to create a map of low pollution walking routes within the walking zone, and distribute this across the school community. **3) Launch a week-long active travel challenge to encourage your students to try walking or cycling to school** By trying walking and/or cycling to school as part of a fun challenge week, new travel habits can be formed as families and students experience the benefits of active travel. **Co-benefits** Physical activity improves physical and mental health. There are also beneficial social outcomes.	Living Streets hosts an annual Walk to School Week. Living Streets' 'Walking Zones' lesson plan involves children in the set up of a walking zone. Use the 'Creating a map of low pollution walking routes' guide to lead your students through a map-making activity. Take a look at our case study of a school using Clean Air Day to launch their brand-new walking bus as a way to reduce children's exposure to pollution. Download Clean Air Day's the ' How to: Organise a walking bus to school' guide or 'Walking bus banner' and get walking. Check out our case study of a Clean Air Route map design helping 96% of children to walk to school in Bow. Sustrans have resources available to help encourage children to cycle to school.
Sign up to the TOW newsletter, to keep up to date with the latest news, events and resources Pathway: Community	The Transform Our World (TOW) website, is a dynamic hub with a huge pool of environmental resources for teachers to freely use. Through signing up to the monthly TOW newsletter, you will receive helpful links to the most up to date and relevant resources as well as hearing about important news and events, to keep you fully informed and engaged along your climate action journey.	Go to edit your TOW profile, and tick yes under 'receive news and updates from Transform our World and the latest about the Youth Climate Summit.'

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Reduce non-food waste in the dining room Pathway: Culture	This can reduce plastic and other waste streams created by the school canteen. School canteens can produce lots of non food waste such as throw away plates, cutlery, cups, drink cartons and various types of food wrapping. The simple question is can more sustainable options be found? **1) Working with the Eco team** to organise a non-food waste audit with the kitchen. **2)Analyse the findings and create an action plan** with the kitchen staff, pupils and the business manager to reduce waste. Consider whether compostable plates can be composted, if a dish washer would be better or if food could be stored better. **Co-benefits** This could reduce costs and the school's carbon footprint.	By joining Food for Life you can get support materials. Oxfordshire has provided a useful resource to help you think through non-food waste. **This action supports the key area of "our production and consumption of resources" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.**
Run a Switch-off campaign Pathway: Community	Saving energy saves money and reduces the school's carbon footprint. Co-benefits: pupils find they can make a real difference through the campaign and it reduces the need for energy production. Running a Switch-off campaign needs a whole school push to turn off electrical items when they are not in use or not needed. Challenging assumptions about what is deemed necessary can be important. Do all the lights need to be switched on in a room? Does the projector need to be on all lesson? **1) Find out** who keeps a check on the school's energy use. **2) Use their data**, or data collected in an energy audit, to find out where most energy is used as this is a good place to save it. **3) Get staff and pupils** on board by promoting the Switch off. **4) Ask the Eco team** to monitor what energy is being used across the school during the Switch off. **5) Ask the pupils** to report back to the whole school on the results.	Eco Schools run Switch-off Fortnight every Autumn term and if you join The Pod you can access lots of support materials. **This action supports the key area of "our homes workplaces and public buildings" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.**

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Run a Fairtrade Campaign Pathway: Community	Inform the wider school community of the importance of consuming Fairtrade, which demands the highest standards from business and government, ensuring people and planet are not exploited to create the products we all enjoy. **Co-benefits** Children who have taken part in a campaign understand their own sense of agency to create change. Running a campaign can contribute to a Fairtrade School Award and becoming a Fairtrade School means joining a worldwide movement	Take a look at Fairtrade's Take Action pages and see if there are any national campaigns that your school would like to be involved with or perhaps younger pupils could create a campaign to encourage staff to switch to Fairtrade tea and coffee in the staffroom. Take part in Fairtrade Fortnight !
Plant trees Pathway: Campus	Trees absorb carbon dioxide and provide oxygen, improve air quality, retain water, cool air and provide valuable habitat. Planting trees implies buying, or sourcing, small whips or larger trees and finding the right space in the school grounds where they can grow. But it could also mean creating a tree nursery and growing trees from seed. **1) Assess your site** and consider the soil and how the trees will grow across their lifetime. **2) Consider if you want to bring in an organisation** to support or, **3) Consider the equipment needed** to plant the trees and whether they will need safe-guarding from being strimmed, trampled or eaten. **4) Consider who will help to plant them** - the whole school, or a class, or the Eco team. **5) Consider how they will be maintained** in the future. **Co-benefits** They are proven to increase our sense of well-being.	City of Trees have a school tree planting programme and can organise a day's planting. The Woodland Trust will send schools free packs of small tree whips. Smaller trees easily get damaged so it might be better to find a programme where larger trees can be planted. **This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.**

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Create an outdoor classroom Pathway: Campus	Teaching outside is good for young people's health, fitness and well-being. An outdoor classroom is about defining an area where learning can occur. It can be as simple as using sawn logs to create a seating area, building a wooden roofed structure or landscaping an amphitheatre. **1) Consider the sites available** and the kind of classroom you want to provide. **2) If it is forest school style** it can be as simple as sourcing logs and an awning; **3) If you need a wooden structure or the area needs landscaping** you will need to find a suitable organisation to deliver your goals. **Co-benefits** It is good for pupils to gain knowledge of local fauna and flora.	To create your own outdoor classroom you are likely to need sustainably sourced logs and woodchip. Treestation have a Community Benefit Scheme for their sustainably sourced wood-based products. There are also plenty of organisations that can help build structures or re-landscape an area. The Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Sow the City can help create a forest school's area whilst Groundwork can also re-landscape. **This action supports the key area of "our natural environment" which is part of the GMCA's 5 year environment plan.**