



Climate Change Policy

Introduction

The [UNCRC \(United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child\)](#) dictates that children have the right to a safe, clean, and sustainable environment. The climate crisis is considered a direct violation of these rights, as it impacts health, education, and survival.

Department for Education (DfE) requires all early year's settings in England to nominate a sustainability lead and implement a climate action plan. These plans focus on decarbonisation, adaptation, biodiversity, and climate education. Key initiatives include reducing single-use plastics, energy saving, and connecting children with nature.

Sustainability Leads: Leon Day and Dawn Day

We are committed to complying with the DfE requirement to move our Early Years Setting towards net zero by 2050. This means reducing our carbon footprint, embedding sustainability in the curriculum, engaging parents in this aim and working with the local community. Within this document we outline our pledge to climate change. All aspects of climate change in our settings action plan aim to promote love for the environment from children, staff and visitors to our nursery. Children learn lifelong skills which we hope continue to blossom throughout their lifelong learning journey.

Purpose

This Climate Action Plan outlines steps to reduce the environmental impact of Creative Stars Day Nursery setting while fostering sustainability awareness among children, staff and the wider community.

Our Commitments

As an Early year's provider, we commit to incorporating eco-friendly practices into daily activities, promoting sustainable habits, and reducing waste.

The DfE states that our climate action plan should cover 4 main areas of provision:

- Decarbonisation
- Adaptation and Resilience
- Biodiversity
- Climate Education and green careers.

Whilst we are committed to this Climate action plan, we will still use products which have already been purchased with the aim of not renewing certain items (such as glitter) to reduce our impact on the environment.

Decarbonisation

Commitment to Energy Efficiency

- Where possible, use energy-efficient appliances and lighting (LED bulbs, smart thermostats).
- Encourage natural lighting and ventilation.
- Turn off lights and electronics when not in use.
- Educate children about conserving energy.

Commitment to Waste Reduction & Recycling

- Implement a recycling system for paper, plastics, and food waste.
- Use reusable materials for activities and avoid single-use plastics.
- Encourage children to engage in upcycling crafts.
- Read children books about waste reduction, reusing and recycling.

Commitment to Sustainable Food & Drink

- Reduce food waste through portion control and meal planning.



- Use reusable water bottles and lunch containers.
- Educate children on the benefits of healthy, sustainable eating.

Adaptation and Resilience

Commitment to Curriculum

The EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) framework embeds sustainability through "Understanding the World" and personal, social, and emotional development, focusing on nature connection, recycling, and environmental awareness.

Commitment to Eco-Friendly Learning & Play

- Where possible, use natural and recycled materials for arts and crafts.
- Plan nature-based activities (gardening, outdoor play, wildlife exploration).
- Read books and teach lessons about climate change and sustainability.
- Limit plastic toys and prioritise sustainable wooden or fabric alternatives

Biodiversity

Commitment to Sustainable Travel & Outdoor Activities

- Walk, cycle, or use public transport where possible.
- Organise daily outdoor play sessions to promote nature appreciation.
- Frequent outdoor activities promoting growing and planting
- Educate children on the importance of biodiversity and conservation.
- Feed birds in our outdoor area
- Grow and release butterflies yearly
- Growing fruits and vegetables

Commitment to Water Conservation

- Where possible, use water-saving devices (e.g., tap aerators, water butts for gardening).
- Encourage children to turn off taps while washing hands.
- Collect rainwater for outdoor play and watering plants.

Climate Education and green careers.

Commitment to Community Engagement & Advocacy

- Partner with local eco-friendly businesses and initiatives.
- Share sustainable practices with parents, carers and other childminders.
- Take part in local environmental projects (e.g., litter picking, tree planting).

Commitment to Monitoring & Continuous Improvement

- Set realistic sustainability goals and review progress annually.
- Seek feedback from parents and children on eco-friendly initiatives.
- Seek feedback from Early Years Advisors and wider community school leaders.

Conclusion

By following this Climate Action Plan, we aim to create a greener, more sustainable early years setting and will continuously seek ways to improve and instil environmental responsibility in the children we care for

This policy was created on: 22.07.26

Date of next review: 22.07.27