Acorn Federation Climate Action Plan

Date written: *June 2026*

Next review date: September *2026*

Previous review dates: N/A

Signature from Senior leadership: *MAHill*

Sites where CAP will be shared: Cherry Orchard and Fossdene websites

What have we already achieved?

Actions	Benefits to school
Biodiversity	
Curriculum trips	Pupils connecting to nature through local area trips- Ecology park, Charlton Park, Maryon Wilson Park, Greenwich Park
Forest school	Pupils connect to nature, studying biodiversity and nature
Food waste disposal through the council	All food waste is put in the green bins for collection by the council, including from the kitchen (prep waste) and the lunch hall (Plate waste)
School grounds	Bug hotels on site providing learning opportunities

	We have planted a range of trees and shrubs from The Woodland Trust across both sites, including fruit trees Pupils engage in the watering of plants and grounds
Every room has an air purifier supplied by Mayor of London	Air quality and pollens reduced in rooms in the school
Decarbonisation	
Council composting scheme	All food and garden waste is collected by the council (green bins)
Motion sensor lights in corridors and move to use in stairwells	Improved energy efficiency and decreased emissions Reduced electricity bills Cherry Orchard lobby area and Fossdene stairwell every other light is sensored and the after school club is sensored Perimiter lighting is photocelled (dark sensor)
Reduction in paper waste	Paper waste collected by eco- council and put n Council blue bins
Air Source heat pumps installed	Heat pumps reduces the reliance on gas at both schools
Solar panels trial	Trial of solar panels at Cherry Orchard
Draft excluders	All external doors have draft excluders on the bottom of the doors to prevent hear escaping
Low use rooms	Rooms that are rarely used have the radiators switched off
Uniform stalls	Second hand uniform given to families struggling or that want to swap/recycle
Communication and homework	Paperless communication with families and all stakeholders (including all Governor meetings on Governorhub) Use of Google classrooms and online programmes (such as timestable rockstars) for home learning Lower paper use across the curriculum
Active promotion of cycling	Bikeability in Years 5 & 6 promotes active travel, reduces emmitions, imporves fitness and road safety awareness Bikers breakfast events

	Bike first-aid sessions held for years 5 & 6
Lighting	All strip lights at Fossdene have been replaced with LED and Cherry Orchard are being replaced in the EOY 2026
Meat-free Monday	Reduced food emissions, promotes healthy eating and cost savings
Annual walk to school week	All children encouraged to walk to school for a week to encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce carbon emmisions
Adaptation and Resilience	
Planting	Trees, flowers, shrubs and herbs have been planted across the sites to attract insects and create shelter/interest in plants and growing
Recycling opportunities	Paper recycling in all areas (inc classrooms) Batteries recycled correctly Food waste and garden waste recycled in line with Council
Risk assessments in place for extreme weather	School closure protocol followed in extreme weather (eg snow)
Increase shade where possible	Shaded areas provided in the playground, and outdoor dining under shade Trees from Woodland trust planted Trees trimmed to create archways in order to shade the outdoor areas
School temperature monitored in extreme weather	Use of fans, outdoor areas and temperature control
Promote hydration	All pupils and staff encouraged to bring in water bottles, and all classrooms have a tap with drinking water
Climate action day observed and celebrated	Climate action day celebrated annually (14 June 2006)
Climate Education and Green Careers	
Pupil Eco-council	Pupils engaged in thinking about climate action

How is the school community engaged in developing our climate action plan?

Community engaged	How?	When?
Learners	Students will help map our outdoor space for biodiversity and come up with ideas for what to grow and where Re elect Eco council	*As part of lessons and extracurricular clubs in 2026/27 school year* *September 2026*
Staff	Discussed and disseminated at whole-staff PDMs	Academic years 2025/26 and 2026/27
Leadership and governors	SBMS and Governor meetings	Focus area within the SDP
Parents and care givers	Through the school website, newsletters and surveys	September 2026 onwards

Pillar 1: Biodiversity

Vision: Enhancing biodiversity and enabling a connection with nature in school and beyond in the wider community.

Areas of action

- Increase biodiversity in and around education settings
- Improve air quality in and around education settings
- Create opportunities for children to access nature
- Develop the skills and confidence of learners to take care of their local environment

Co-benefits of biodiversity pillar

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Physical health
- Careers and skills of learners

Acorn Federation long-term goals in biodiversity

1. *We have embedded learning about biodiversity in the curriculum*
2. *Embed learning about biodiversity in the curriculum*

Action	Timescale to complete	Resources required	People to involve	Measures of success
Goal 1: *We have mapped biodiversity on site and are developing existing spaces to be more biodiverse and creating new spaces of increased biodiversity*				
Mapping the biodiversity on site and identifying new areas we could grow things	December 2026	GIS mapping software accessible on National Education Nature Park's online platform	NENP to support with mapping the biodiversity with learners Students Teachers	Staff and students know the current biodiversity of our site We know where we could plan improvements to the site and take action
Goal 2: Embed learning about biodiversity in the curriculum				
Through a new curriculum audit, identify where and when biodiversity is taught in the curriculum. This will be followed by curriculum updating and development if required	By Jul 2026	Some learning resources may be required	*Students* *Teachers* *Curriculum leads*	Biodiversity is clearly embedded in the curriculum in both the Primary and Secondary phases
Autumn review	• Curriculum audit taken place by subject leaders as part of the ongoing cyclical curriculum review • Plants/trees audited in light of heat and trees that died will be replaced with trees that are able to withstand the temperatures (eg Olive)			
Spring review				
Summer review				

Pillar 2: Decarbonisation

Vision: Reduce direct and indirect emissions from the buildings and provide opportunities for pupils to engage practically in the transition to net zero.

Areas of action	**Co-benefits of biodiversity pillar**
Reducing emissions created through: ● Energy usage and utilities ● Purchasing and services ● Transport to and from school ● Food and drinks	● Cost reductions through increased efficiency (school materials, food and energy) ● Physical health from increased active transport ● Healthy food served to students and staff

***Acorn Federation* long-term goals in decarbonisation**

1. *We know our schools' emissions and are working towards net zero*
2. We support lower admissions in vehicles and enabling staff to be carbon neutral

Action	Timescale to complete	Resources required	People to involve	Measures of success
Goal 1: *We know our schools' emissions and are working towards net zero*				

Identify if solar panels are possible on site and which organisation or funding can support us	EOY 2026	Solar for schools Geogreen power	School business manager Premises team Governors	We know if it is possible to install solar panels at our school and if so which organisation and funding we can utilise
Goal 2: Transport-promoting electric vehicles				
Identify if we can have electric vehicle charging points in the car park/outside school	EOY 2026	Camilla Olofsson School Travel Plan Coordinator (RBG)	Travel plan coordinator Premises team	We will know if we can have a charging point near the school
Autumn review	• Solar panels At CO were looked at as part of the electrical fixed wiring service (5 yearly) and found that the voltage was low and so will need a separate service-being arranged through RBG • Solar panels funding bid and grants to be looked into in Autumn2 • CamillaO has been contacted and we await response			
Spring review				
Summer review				

Pillar 3: Adaptation and Resilience

Vision: Create resilience to climate change by adapting our buildings and systems to prepare for the effects of climate change.

Areas of action ● Reducing the effects of overheating and/or flooding through physical or operational changes to the site ● Developing resilience in education settings to extreme weather events ● Developing staff, learner and community resilience to a changing environment	**Co-benefits of biodiversity pillar** ● Attainment – student education is not affected by extreme weather ● Students and staff are prepared for a changing British climate
***Acorn Federation* long-term goals in biodiversity** 1. Staff and children know how to keep safe in extreme heat 2.	

Action	Timescale to complete	Resources required	People to involve	Measures of success
Goal 1: Staff and children know how to keep safe in extreme heat				
Ensure staff know the federation school heatwave or extreme heat plan or protocol	August 2026	Heatwave/extreme heat protocal or plan LBHF guidance for schools	Sustainability Lead Safeguarding Lead	We have a heat plan and protocol in place that staff and students understand School doesn't close during extreme heat events
Goal 2: Better insulation of the schools				
Identify if the roofs all have insulation to maintain heat in the winter months	September 2026	Audit roofs-particularly the metal roof on KS1 section of Cherry Orchard	RBG buildings Premises team	We will have identified any issues with insulation and have a plan to rectify
Autumn review	● Achieved and wall fans installed in classrooms			

	• Roof insulation ongoing in terms of the whole school-timescale moved to Spring2
Spring review	
Summer review	

Pillar 4: Climate Education and Green Careers

Vision: ***Enable a education for a changing world by preparing all pupils for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.***

Areas of action	**Co-benefits of climate education and green careers pillar**
• Embedding climate education across the curriculum • Building green skills in learners, staff and the education setting community • Provide students with skills and opportunities to pursue green careers	• Students prepared with skills they need for a future net zero world (employability, resilience and can play an active role in building a just transition) • Careers and skills of learners

Acorn Federation long-term goals in climate education and green careers

1. Staff feel confident to teach about climate change, sustainability and biodiversity
2. Provide pupils with the skills and opportunities to pursue green careers

Action	Timescale to complete	Resources required	People to involve	Measures of success
Goal 1: *Staff feel confident to teach about climate change, sustainability and biodiversity*				

Identify areas of the curriculum related to climate and biodiversity that staff feel less confident teaching about	September 2026	Meeting time Audit	Sustainability Lead Subject Leads All teaching staff	We know if there are areas of teaching in biodiversity or climate that staff don't feel confident about
Goal 2: Provide pupils with the skills and opportunities to pursue green careers				
Through aspiration week create a focus on green careers	July 2027	Meeting time	Heads of School Governors Parents All staff	Aspiration week will have a focus on green careers
Autumn review	• Staff training on an ongoing cycle • Aspiration week being planned by the Heads of Schools			
Spring review				
Summer review				