

Environment resources for schools

Educational resources



Learning Journey

Download Christian Aid's new climate justice resource charting a course through the academic year to support children and young people to learn and act together.

[Christian Aid Learning Journey](#)

A Rocha Education resources

Download A Rocha's education plans for outdoor lessons for primary and secondary school aged children (3-14 years)

<https://arocha.org.uk/education-plans/>

First steps to becoming a Carbon Net Zero School

The Church of England is aiming to become carbon neutral by 2030. 'Net zero' carbon means carbon emissions which are eliminated/balanced with the use of renewables and carbon removal.

1. Find out your school's carbon footprint

Try the [Energy Footprint Tool](#) ('EFT') for schools, this accepts data from the school's DEC (Display Energy Certificate) and energy bills and automatically calculates their impact. This will follow the EFT model that has been created for churches.

The Church of England are also encouraging schools to install and use data from smart meters and the free online energy analysis tool and energy education programme from [Energy Sparks](#). This programme is specifically designed to help schools reduce their electricity and gas usage through the analysis of smart meter data.

2. Let's go Zero

The '[Let's Go Zero](#)' campaign by [Ashden Climate Solutions](#) aims to help all schools to get to zero carbon by 2030. Schools could also consider establishing an 'eco charter' for school councils to implement, and identify personal pledges to work towards the target as a collective.

3. Consider writing an Annual Resilience Statement

The Church of England are asking schools to consider providing an 'Annual Resilience Statement' to review their declaration to go net zero. A suggestion is that this would be a statement setting out how directors/governors are measuring the school's climate resilience and targets, and addressing challenges over the short, medium and long-term, including risks posed by climate change.

4. Write a Heat Decarbonisation Plan

Once you know your carbon footprint, the next best step is to identify how your school can go carbon net zero, by producing a [Heat Decarbonisation Plan](#) ('HDP'). The key to progressing schools toward the target is for each to

understand the bespoke route for your school by commissioning a detailed audit; which also help to establish clear business cases to bid for the [public funding](#) required to deliver the projects that are identified.

Find out more about Carbon Net Zero

You can find out more about the Church of England Education Office's resources for schools to go carbon net zero [on this webpage](#).

Training webinar:

Watch the webinar about carbon net zero schools and COP26 here: <https://youtu.be/CfXDVVySg4E>

Case studies of net zero church schools in other dioceses:

[St Laurence Primary School, Chorley](#).

[St Andrews Church of England Primary School](#), Chedworth: virtual tour of school building [here](#).

Eco Schools

Eco Schools is an educational programme that encourages children to help protect their local environment and recognises the environmental achievements of young people.

<https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>

Pupils at Warkworth Church of England Aided Primary School have been doing fantastic activities with their Eco-Club including community litter picks and setting up a recycling centre for the community. The school was awarded a Green Flag Award in July 2019.



Find out more about what some of our schools have been doing to care for the environment:

[Wark C of E Primary School used the NFU's award-winning education resources to help their pupils enjoy their return to school after the second lockdown visit the House of Commons as winners in a national competition.](#)



[NCEA Trust schools have recently launched a competition to gather ideas on how to make their schools sustainable and reduce their carbon footprint](#)

[Pupils from Christ Church Primary School in Shieldfield, Cragside Primary School and Chollerton First School had their voices heard in a show aired at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow.](#)