Knotty Ash Primary School and Deaf Resource Base

SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2025 – 2026





Our Sustainability Pledge

At Knotty Ash Primary School and Deaf Resource Base, we believe that sustainability is all about giving children the opportunities, skills and support they need to take control of their relationship with the wider world.

Through our taught curriculum and wider enrichments, we want to empower our children so they can contribute in the best way possible to the sustainability of the planet. We want to nurture respect for the environment and inspiration from role-models who have made positive difference, so that our children take responsibility for their own actions within school, their local surroundings and the global community.

We are committed to the care of our school and local environment and to taking steps to reduce our global footprint. Throughout all decision-making, we will be guided by sustainable principles which will improve our impact on the environment now and positively develop the school's resilience to future changes.

In order to do this, we will:

With LLT, perform a Sustainability Audit to:

- Gather data on energy consumption, water use, waste generation, and other environmental impacts.

Set Sustainability Goals and Objectives to:

- Establish clear objectives for reducing the school's carbon footprint and improving its overall sustainability.
- Establish next steps in our Sustainability and Climate education so that children are empowered to make a difference.

Develop Strategies and Actions to:

- Identify specific strategies to achieve our goals.
- Energy: Switch to LED lighting, use natural light, and install automatic controls for lights.
- Waste: Implement creative recycling projects, reduce paper waste, and encourage children to save water and energy.
- Biodiversity: Encourage biodiversity in our outdoor spaces.
- Climate Education: Enrich opportunities for children to take action as a result of their learning through our Inclusive Curriculum.

Monitor and Evaluate Progress to:

- Regularly review our actions and adjust our strategy as needed.

Our Sustainability Leader is Alex Rigg.

Our current sustainability practice includes:

No	Actions	Responsibility
Education for a changing world, including green careers		
1	The curriculum design is founded on Oxfam Global Citizenship ethos and underpinned by the UN Sustainability Goals.	Exec Head
2	Writing tasks are purposeful and linked to the sustainability themes of each unit.	Exec Head
3	Environmental sustainability units of work (Summer 1) focus on people's capacity to make a difference individually and collectively. The message of hope and optimism is important to avoid climate anxiety.	Exec Head
4	Forest School is a valued part of our curriculum for all children from Nursery to Year 6, encouraging a love of the outdoors and respect for nature.	Head of School
5	Revisit DT curriculum to incorporate mending and repurposing existing items that children and their families may otherwise throw away.	DT Lead
Net Zero - decarbonisation		
1	School hosts Zero Food Waste events every Saturday and Sunday evening throughout the year, and every evening over Xmas/Easter breaks. The scheme redistributes excess food from supermarkets to local community, reducing the amount of food going to landfill.	Exec Head
2	Recent building works include: • LED lighting throughout KS2 and the hall • Motion sensor lighting in the hall • Thermostat controlled heating	LCC

Resilience to climate change, including adaptations		
1	Recent building works include: • new roof, eliminating internal flooding and water damage to the building	LCC
2	Building of the MUGA has meant that children can access outdoor play and PE throughout the year, regardless of the amount of recent rainfall. Drainage of the field was also improved, enabling use of this large area for more weeks of the year.	Head of School
3	Recent building works included the installation of an infiltration tank to improve drainage of the playground and reduce surface water from overflowing drains.	LCC
Better environment for the future, including biodiversity		
1	Forest School principles and respect for biodiversity inform our management of the school's green spaces and weeds along pathways etc.	SBM and Caretakers

Our sustainability action plan:

No	Action	Purpose	Responsibility	Timescale	Monitoring
Education for a changing world, including green careers					
1	Promoting green careers to pupils	To prepare children for future opportunities and to inspire engagement with sustainability topics.	Exec Head Sustainability Lead	Overview by Sept 2026 Actioned through curriculum 2026-2027	
2	Plan a programme of sustainability-linked enrichments	To reinforce sustainability and climate education through additional opportunities for pupils to engage and apply.	Sustainability Lead	Identification of current opportunities by July 2026	
3	Develop Early Years outdoors environment so that it is usable and engaging throughout the year	To improve engagement with the outdoors for our youngest learners.	Exec Head Head of School EY team	Over the course of 2025-2027	
4	Revisit DT curriculum to incorporate mending and repurposing existing items that children and their families may otherwise throw away.	To teach children the lost skills of mending and reusing worn/broken items.	Exec Head DT Lead	Summer 2026	
5	Engage with Millennium Kids programme.	To educate children about the climate and sustainability actions being taken by children around the world, and empower them to make a difference themselves.	Sustainability Lead	Autumn 2026	

Net Zero - decarbonisation					
1	Sustainability to be a central consideration in the design and resourcing of outdoor provision across school	Reduce the purchase of new plastic resources. Recycling and repurposing existing items will encourage children's creativity and model this for parents	Head of School	Over the course of 2025-2027	
2	Explore more sustainable Dojo prizes	To reduce the purchase of single-use plastics	Head of School	By Summer 2026	
3	Continue the programme of building works to replace old inefficient lighting in KS1/EYFS and Office areas, with LED lighting	To reduce the school building's carbon footprint	LTT School Business Manager	Within 3 year building improvement plan	
4	Eco-Warriors to audit how regularly lights/devices etc are left on, and address through programme of assemblies and signage	To reduce the use of electricity powering lights and devices when not in use	Sustainability Lead	Summer Term 2026	

Resilience to climate change, including adaptations					
1	Continue to nurture the green spaces, trees and plants on the school site	To absorb CO2 from the atmosphere	SLT	Ongoing decision-making	
2	Explore alternative ways to create airflow around the building	To reduce the use of air conditioning units during hot weather conditions	LTT	Within 3 year building improvement plan	
Better environment for the future, including biodiversity					
1	Promote local and national environmental campaigns walk with pupils and families.	To encourage children and their families to make small changes that improve the environment, showing children that they can make a difference	Sustainability Lead	Calendar of events for year by Sept 2026	
2	Continue to nurture our outdoor spaces, including through the development of vegetable beds	To improve the natural environment and biodiversity on the school site	Sustainability Lead	Academic year 2026-27	
3	Eco-Warriors to audit our recycling use in school and develop initiatives to improve	To increase children and staff understanding of the importance of recycling and to reduce the proportion of waste being put in ‘general waste’ bins	Sustainability Lead	Autumn 2026	