

ZERO CARBON SCHOOLS

INFORMATION SHEET 2022/23

GREEN SCHOOLS PROJECT IS ON A MISSION TO CHANGE THE WAY SCHOOLS RESPOND TO THE CLIMATE AND NATURE CRISIS. HELPING SCHOOLS TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY, AND GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE HOPE FOR A GREENER FUTURE.

Set up in 2015, we've helped over 130 schools to educate their pupils about climate change and empower them to lead projects that tackle environmental issues, inspiring change in their school and wider communities.

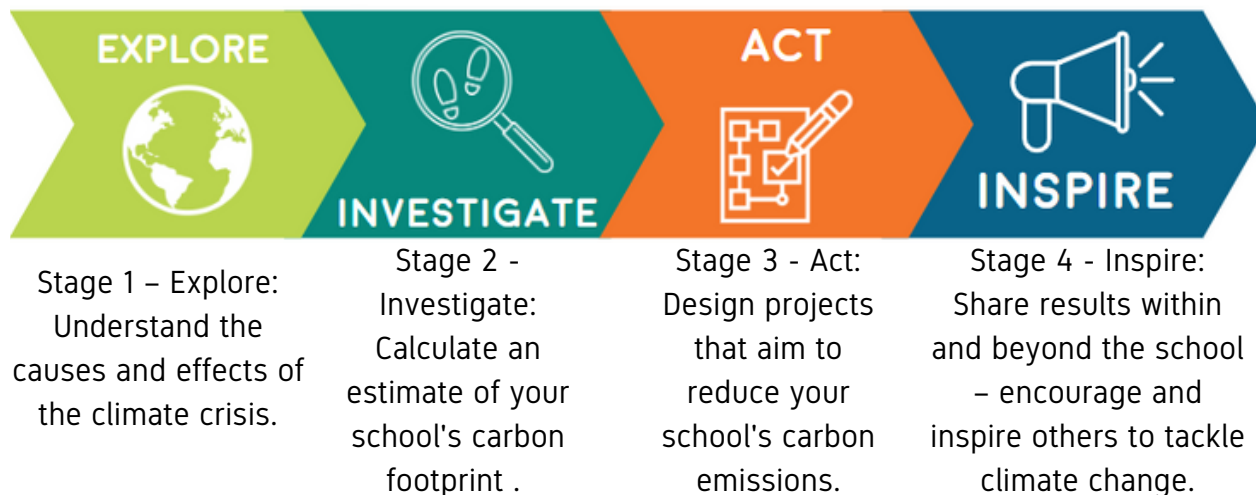
In 2020-21 we launched Zero Carbon Schools which puts climate education and action at the heart of school life so that young people can become catalysts for change, now and in the future. It is a package of resources, training, and support for schools, with sessions suitable for pupils in years 4 – 8.

We are now recruiting for our next cohort of Zero Carbon Schools! The programme will start on 31st October 2022 and will run until the end of the academic year.

AIMS AND OUTCOMES

- Develop participating pupils' knowledge of climate change.
- Support pupils to take action to reduce carbon emissions, enabling them to become green champions with the skills and confidence to inspire change in their school and local communities.
- Support teachers to implement whole school actions to tackle climate change and to bring climate and nature into their lessons.
- Support schools to set up a parent group to run community events that turn the school into a learning hub for how to reduce carbon emissions on an individual and local community level.

LEARNING JOURNEY



There are also outdoor sessions that develop a connection to nature and throughout the programme there are skill building activities that help develop teamwork, leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

The programme is funded through grants from trusts and foundation, meaning that there is no cost for schools to join. For schools that would like additional support we are offering a premium programme.

For the premium programme, the introductory meeting, assembly, and teacher training sessions can be delivered in person at a cost of £950 or they can be delivered online via zoom at a cost of £450.

The free programme will be available to a maximum of 100 schools and there is capacity to deliver the premium programme to 20 schools.

ACTIVITY	FREE	PREMIUM
Plans and resources for 26 sessions suitable for Years 4 - 8 available via website	✓	✓
Half termly online 'How To' session for support with the pupil sessions and an opportunity for peer support and sharing good practice	✓	✓
Support with carbon emission calculations that lead to an estimate of the school's total carbon footprint	✓	✓
Introductory meeting with teacher coordinator, SLT member, school business manager and site manager		✓
Assembly for pupils to launch the programme		✓
Two teacher training sessions to get staff involved with carbon reduction projects and to include climate and nature in lessons		✓

Designed by teachers, the programme is cross-curricular with links to science, maths, geography, English, PSHE and art, and runs over the course of 26 weeks from 31st October until the end of the school year.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We know that the programme works best when schools that join are fully committed, so we ask participating schools to agree to the following:

One session of 45 min - 1hr per week with at least one class or group of pupils.

- This should preferably be within school curriculum time.
- For primary schools it is best for whole classes to hold these sessions. Year 5 is ideal, but the sessions are suitable for Years 4-6.
- For secondary schools the sessions are suitable for Years 7-8. They can be done with whole classes or with selected groups of pupils.

One hour of CPD time should be made available, twice during the year.

- This will ensure that all teachers are confident in supporting the programme through whole school actions and bringing elements of it into lessons in all curriculum areas.
- Schools on the free programme will receive session plans and PowerPoints for a member of staff to deliver.
- Schools on the premium programme will have a member of the Green Schools Project team to will deliver the sessions (online or in person).

One community event should be organised

- Guidance and support will be provided.

START DATE AND NEXT STEPS

- The programme starts on 31st October 2022.
- [Click here for the Zero Carbon Schools Remote Programme Agreement.](#)
- Once you've returned the agreement, you will be provided with a login to the Green Schools Project website and will be able to download the resources and guidance.

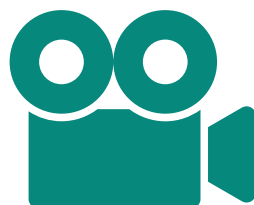
Please send completed agreements to Beth Newman: beth.newman@greenschoolsproject.org.uk or get in touch if you have any questions or would like to arrange a call to find out more.

STILL NOT SURE?

Check out the following to see more about the impact of the Zero Carbon Schools programme with the schools we've worked with so far.



[Read the Zero Carbon Schools Pilot Impact Report](#) to find out what we achieved in the pilot year 2020-21 with four schools in Waltham Forest.



[Watch a short video](#) featuring teachers and pupils from schools participating in the programme this year.



[Read a case study](#) of a primary school taking part in the Zero Carbon Schools Programme.

Example projects that pupils have run:

- Encouraging the school to install solar panels.
- Holding a low energy day to raise awareness of saving energy.
- Switching from single use to re-useable cutlery in the school canteen.
- Reducing food waste.
- Encouraging more low carbon and healthy dishes on the school menu.
- Holding a bike repair workshop and cycle training sessions.
- Reducing the use of single use plastic.

“We are delighted with the support from Green Schools Project and feel that the Zero Carbon Schools programme is enabling us to make better choices as a whole school to mitigate the impact of our carbon emissions. Thank you for your dedication and support!”

Leigh Milkamanavicius, Assistant Headteacher, Walsall Academy