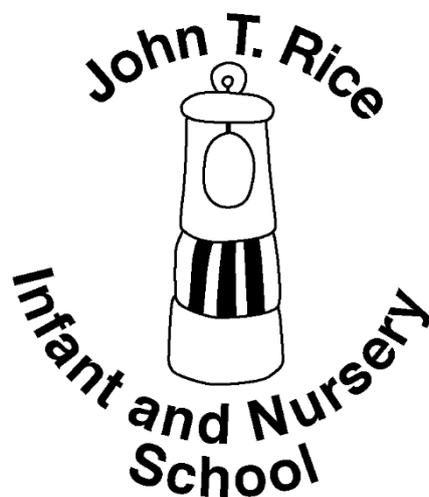




John T. Rice

Climate Action Plan



At John T. Rice Infant & Nursery School, we believe that small actions can lead to big changes, and we are keen to take steps toward a greener, more sustainable future. Our Climate Action Plan is all about creating a positive impact on the environment while inspiring our students, staff, and families to work together for a cleaner, healthier world.

From reducing waste to saving energy, we are committed to making eco-friendly choices that will benefit our school. By embracing these efforts, we hope to encourage everyone at John T Rice Infant and Nursery school to become climate champions and help build a brighter, more sustainable future.

Our school hold the Eco award and gained this award several years ago. We have an Eco team made up of two class members from each class from reception class to Y2. This committee meets regularly with a member of staff to talk about Eco matters. They met and contributed to the design of this action plan.

Decarbonisation

Make the school more energy efficient

<p>Deliver more lessons outside</p> 	<p>Outdoor lessons promote active, healthier lifestyles while reducing reliance on indoor lighting and heating. Whether it's reading in a shaded area, conducting science experiments outside, or using school gardens for hands-on learning, outdoor education fosters engagement and sustainability awareness.</p>
<p>Install LED lighting</p> 	<p>LED lighting is a cost-effective and energy-efficient alternative to traditional incandescent and fluorescent bulbs. By switching to LED lighting, schools can significantly reduce electricity consumption and maintenance costs while lowering their carbon footprint. LED bulbs also generate less heat, improving classroom comfort and reducing the need for air conditioning.</p>
<p>Install motion sensors to lights</p> 	<p>Motion sensors automatically turn lights on and off depending on occupancy. By installing these in hallways and restrooms, schools can significantly cut down on wasted electricity. This ensures that lights are only used when needed, reducing overall energy consumption.</p>
<p>Run a switch off campaign</p> 	<p>A switch-off campaign will help to raise awareness about energy consumption and encourages simple behavioural changes to reduce waste. School will put up reminder posters and conduct audits to track energy savings. Engaging pupils through classroom discussions and energy monitoring can make energy efficiency a long-term habit.</p>

Climate Education and Green Careers

The causes and effects of climate change creating motivated people who are inspired to act

<p>Plan and deliver a Sustainability-Themed Assembly Each Term</p> 	<p>Deliver a sustainability-themed assembly each term will ensure that pupils remain engaged with environmental topics. These events can feature guest speakers, pupil-led presentations, and school-wide challenges to encourage participation. Assemblies will help build a culture of sustainability and reinforce its importance the school community.</p>
<p>The Curriculum</p> 	<p>Through our curriculum, children will be taught about and involved in learning about the climate developing their knowledge, abilities, values and attitudes needed to live in, develop and support a society which reduces the impact of human activity on the environment.</p>

Resilience & Adaptation

We are already experiencing the effects of climate change and need to be ready for these and future changes. Resilience and adaptation are about how we do this

<p>Heatwave Health and Safety Assessment</p> 	<p>As heatwaves become more common due to climate change, school needs to ensure the wellbeing of pupils and staff during extreme temperatures. A heatwave health and safety assessment will include ways to cool down classrooms, installing shaded seating areas, increasing hydration points and adjusting schedules during hot weather. Proactive planning will help prevent heat-related illnesses while fostering a healthier, more resilient lifestyle.</p>
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Active and Sustainable Travel

The aim is to shift away from unnecessary car journeys and towards more active and environmentally friendly travel (cycling, walking or by taking public transport)

Travel To School



A travel survey will help school to gather data on pupil and staff commuting habits. By understanding travel patterns, school can identify opportunities to encourage more sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling, carpooling, or using public transport. This information will support decisions on bike rack installations, road safety improvements, and incentive programs for eco-friendly commuting. Pupils will learn that active and sustainable travel can have lots of benefits such as reducing travel costs, improving health and wellbeing, improving air quality and improving safety outside schools.

Eco team to create posters and send out to parents about walking to school.

Waste, consumption and recycling

As a society, we are consuming more and more. The result of this is an increase in waste. The items we consume produce a large amount of carbon emissions.

Recycling



Reducing waste and reducing our consumption of goods is key to helping to tackle climate change. This will be done by encouraging people to reduce, reuse and recycle. School will play a key role in changing these behaviours by leading by example and teaching about it.

In Year 2 pupils will learn about recycling, visiting a recycling centre and spreading the importance across school.

Recycling bins for food waste and paper-based waste are in all classrooms.

Action plan written spring 2026 & Agreed in Strategic development committee spring 2026