

PEWITHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2026-2030

"Ready, Safe, Respectful - Caring for Our Future"

Vision

At Pewithall Primary School, we are committed to developing environmentally responsible citizens who understand their role in protecting the planet and creating a sustainable future. We believe sustainability should be embedded across our curriculum, school operations, leadership structures and community partnerships.

This strategy sets out our commitment to reducing our environmental impact, enhancing biodiversity, promoting sustainable behaviours and empowering pupils to become agents of change within their school and wider community.

Strategic Priority 1: Excellence in Education

Aim

To ensure all pupils develop a strong understanding of environmental sustainability and their role in protecting the environment.

Why This Matters

Environmental education equips children with the knowledge, skills and values needed to make informed decisions and contribute positively to society. By embedding sustainability throughout the curriculum, pupils will understand local, national and global environmental challenges whilst developing the confidence to take meaningful action.

Targets

- By July 2027, sustainability themes will be explicitly identified within curriculum maps for Science, Geography, Design Technology and PSHE in every year group.
- By July 2027, 100% of pupils will participate in at least one sustainability-focused project annually.
- By July 2028, Eco Warriors will lead a minimum of three whole-school campaigns per year.
- By July 2028, 90% of pupils will demonstrate age-appropriate understanding of environmental responsibility through pupil voice surveys.
- By 2030, all classes will undertake at least one outdoor learning activity linked to sustainability each term.

Success Indicators

- Sustainability mapped within curriculum documentation.
- Pupil voice demonstrates increasing understanding.
- Increased participation in environmental projects.
- Strong pupil leadership through Eco Warriors.
- Regular outdoor learning opportunities evident across all year groups.

Strategic Priority 2: Reduce Carbon Emissions and Energy Use

Aim

To reduce the school's environmental footprint through efficient use of energy and resources.

Why This Matters

Reducing our consumption of energy and natural resources helps lower carbon emissions, reduce operational costs and demonstrates responsible stewardship of public resources.

Targets

- Complete the LED replacement programme across the school by July 2027.
- Reduce electricity consumption by 15% from the 2025-26 baseline by July 2028.
- Reduce electricity consumption by 25% from the 2025-26 baseline by July 2030.
- Monitor and report solar panel energy generation termly to governors from September 2026.

- Reduce paper consumption by 20% by July 2028 through increased digital communication and double-sided printing.
- Increase recycling rates by 50% by July 2028, measured through waste audits.

Key Actions

- Complete remaining LED lighting upgrades.
- Promote energy-saving behaviours among staff and pupils.
- Introduce "Switch Off" campaigns led by Eco Warriors.
- Increase use of electronic communication and digital systems.
- Improve recycling facilities and signage.
- Monitor energy consumption monthly.

Success Indicators

- Reduced electricity usage.
- Lower utility costs.
- Increased recycling rates.
- Reductions in paper purchasing.
- Increased awareness of energy-saving behaviours.

Strategic Priority 3: Biodiversity and School Grounds

Aim

To improve biodiversity and strengthen pupils' connection with nature.

Why This Matters

School grounds provide an important opportunity for pupils to experience nature first-hand. Enhancing biodiversity supports local wildlife while providing valuable educational experiences.

Targets

- Establish at least one new pollinator-friendly area by July 2027.
- Plant a minimum of 50 shrubs, trees or wildlife-supporting plants by July 2028.
- Create a biodiversity action map of the school grounds by Easter 2027.
- Conduct annual biodiversity surveys led by the Eco Warriors.
- Increase the number of identified wildlife habitats on the school site by 25% by 2030.
- Ensure every class participates in at least one biodiversity project each academic year.

Key Actions

- Develop wildflower and pollinator zones.
- Introduce bird, bat and insect habitats.
- Expand planting opportunities around the school grounds.
- Create wildlife observation areas.
- Incorporate biodiversity projects into curriculum learning.
- Engage families and community volunteers in planting activities.

Success Indicators

- Increased biodiversity on site.
- Growth in plant and wildlife habitats.
- Improved outdoor learning opportunities.
- Positive biodiversity survey findings.

Strategic Priority 4: Sustainable Travel and Active Citizenship

Aim

To encourage environmentally responsible behaviours amongst pupils, staff and families.

Why This Matters

Travel choices significantly impact carbon emissions. Developing sustainable habits helps reduce environmental impact whilst supporting healthier lifestyles and stronger community engagement.

Targets

- Increase participation in active travel initiatives by 20% by July 2028.
- Deliver at least two walk-to-school or sustainable travel campaigns each year.
- Organise an annual community environmental action event such as litter picking, planting or habitat improvement.
- Reduce single-use plastic consumption at school events by 75% by 2030.
- Achieve participation from at least 50% of families in one sustainability initiative each year.

Key Actions

- Promote walking, cycling and park-and-stride schemes.
- Deliver regular sustainable travel awareness campaigns.

- Organise community environmental action days.
- Reduce reliance on single-use plastics.
- Engage parents through newsletters and workshops.
- Celebrate sustainability achievements throughout the school year.

Success Indicators

- Increased active travel participation.
- Reduced plastic waste.
- Greater family engagement.
- Positive community partnerships.

Strategic Priority 5: Pupil Leadership Through Eco Warriors

Aim

To place pupils at the heart of sustainability leadership.

Why This Matters

Young people are powerful agents for change. Empowering pupils to lead environmental initiatives develops leadership skills, resilience and a sense of responsibility for their community and environment.

Targets

- Maintain representation from every year group within the Eco Warriors.
- Hold a minimum of six Eco Warrior meetings annually.
- Complete termly environmental audits.
- Deliver one report per term to the Senior Leadership Team.
- Present an annual sustainability report to governors each summer term.
- Develop an Eco Warrior action plan and evaluation cycle beginning September 2026.

Key Actions

- Hold regular Eco Warrior meetings.
- Conduct environmental audits each term.
- Lead assemblies and awareness campaigns.
- Monitor sustainability targets.
- Report impact to leaders and governors.
- Encourage pupil-led innovation and ideas.

Success Indicators

- Strong pupil participation.
- Visible impact of Eco Warrior projects.
- Effective pupil voice in decision making.
- Sustained leadership opportunities across the school.

Governor Monitoring Measures

Governors will receive an annual sustainability report including:

Environmental Measures

- Electricity usage (kWh)
- Solar generation data
- Waste and recycling figures
- Paper usage data

Educational Measures

- Curriculum coverage
- Pupil voice outcomes
- Eco Warrior activities
- Participation rates in projects

Biodiversity Measures

- Number of habitat areas
- Planting completed
- Biodiversity survey findings

Community Measures

- Family engagement figures
- Active travel participation rates
- Community project participation

Governors will review progress annually and challenge leaders where targets are not being achieved.

Annual Review Framework

Each summer term the school will:

1. Evaluate progress against all strategic priorities.

2. Review performance measures and environmental data.
3. Gather pupil, staff and parent feedback.
4. Update the Eco Warrior action plan.
5. Report findings to governors.
6. Publish key achievements through school communications.

Success by 2030

By 2030, Pewithall Primary School will:

✅ Reduce electricity use by 25%.

✅ Complete its transition to LED lighting.

✅ Maximise renewable energy generated through solar panels.

✅ Increase biodiversity across the school site by at least 25%.

✅ Embed sustainability learning across all year groups.

✅ Ensure every pupil participates in meaningful environmental action every year.

✅ Establish the Eco Warriors as a recognised and influential pupil leadership body.

✅ Engage families and the wider community in environmental improvement projects.

✅ Be recognised within the local community as a sustainable and environmentally responsible school.

Reviewed: April 2026

Minuted & Adopted: 2nd November 2026

Date for review: 2nd November 2027

Signed: Mr N Burgess (Chair of the board of Governors



Signed: Mr D Baugh (Head Teacher)

