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February 2026 / Issue 9

Welcome to our February Edition!

I'm Jess Miller, your new Schools Sustainability Lead. Many of you will know me from the Youth Climate Conference. Please do reach out to Louisa or me if you need any support.

We're currently reviewing the support offered through the Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network and would really value your feedback. Please take just 5 minutes to complete our short survey and help shape future support for Suffolk schools.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Highlights:

- Launch of the new Suffolk Sustainable Schools website. Click [HERE](#) to visit.
- Bookings now open for the Sustainability in Education Conference. Click [HERE](#) to secure the early bird offer.
- Sign up for the next Network Meeting on Transport [HERE](#)

Introducing Your New Website

is now live! The site brings together a wide range of information, resources and links to support Suffolk schools in embedding sustainability across their culture, curriculum and operations.

[CLICK HERE](#)



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT, EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY, RESOURCES, NEWS AND EVENTS, and GET INVOLVED. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main content area features a large purple graphic with the text "GREENER SCHOOLS, BRIGHTER FUTURES". Below this, a welcome message states: "Welcome to Suffolk's hub for sustainable schools! This site empowers staff to take meaningful action for climate and nature, offering practical resources, inspiration, and support. Join the Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network today and unlock guidance from the Suffolk Schools Sustainability Team— together, we can create a greener future for education." A "BECOME A MEMBER" button is visible. The background image shows children in school uniforms working in a garden. A small logo in the bottom right corner reads "Our Schools, Our World".



IMPORTANT DATES



Transport

Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network Meeting

Tuesday 10th March 4-5:30pm
(online)



Nature

Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network Meeting

Wednesday 29th April 4-5:30pm
(online)

[SIGN UP](#)[SIGN UP](#)

**Water & Adaptation
Suffolk Sustainable Schools
Network Meeting**
Thursday 9th June 4-5:30pm
(online)

[SIGN UP](#)

**Suffolk Sustainability in
Education Conference**
Food Museum, Stowmarket
Monday 22nd June, 9am-4pm

[SIGN UP](#)

**GET
INVOLVED**

Student Survey - Your school could win £200!

We've launched a short online survey for Suffolk students aged 11–18 to hear their views on climate change and protecting the environment. It takes less than five minutes to complete, and your school could win £200 towards a sustainability project!

Schools are already getting involved in different ways: setting it as a homework task for the whole school, or using five minutes at the start of every IT lesson. There's even a bit of friendly competition starting: King Edward VI School in Bury St Edmunds has already had over 500 students take part! Can your school beat that?

Please share the link with as many students as possible and help shape future climate and environmental projects across Suffolk.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Climate Courage Schools

We're shining a spotlight on the brilliant new case studies released as part of the Climate Majority Project initiative: Climate Courage Schools. From embedding climate resilience into safeguarding policies, to creating curricula of hope and developing living classrooms, these stories highlight the powerful and practical action already happening in schools.

If your school would like to share a case study, Climate Courage Schools would love to hear from you. Please contact the Suffolk Sustainability Team who can put you in touch with the Climate Courage Schools organisation: sussn@suffolk.gov.uk

LEARN MORE



Suffolk Sustainability in Education Conference

The Sustainability in Education Conference returns to Suffolk for its second year. The conference is an inspiring day, designed to help schools respond confidently to the growing expectations around climate resilience, curriculum development, and whole-school sustainability.

Open to leaders, teachers, and operational staff across primary and secondary

the foundations laid at last year's event, offering fresh opportunities for support, collaboration, and long-term impact.

This year the conference will be held at the Suffolk Food Museum on Monday 22nd June 2026. Book now to benefit from early bird discounts.

[REGISTER](#)

**SMALL CHANGES
BIG IMPACT**

Last Chance - Free Energy Audits for Secondary Schools

Has your school signed up for a free energy audit yet? Suffolk's secondary schools are able to access this offer until Easter. Audits to date have identified an average annual energy savings of over £40k per school.

Did you know that around 60% of a school's total energy is typically used when there are no students in the building? These audits, fully funded by Suffolk's councils, will support your school's climate action planning and decarbonisation, helping identify where energy is used and prioritise practical actions to cut costs and carbon emissions.

[REGISTER](#)

Energy Management

Optimise your school heating and minimise heat waste with guidance from Energy Sparks. Find out more and access a variety of free pupil-led activities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Climate Staffroom: Staff Support for Eco Emotions

ecological crisis. The sessions are led by Dr Louise Edgington, an educational and child psychologist with a focus on climate resilience and wellbeing in education.

[SIGN UP](#)

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES



Think Smart, Live Green Competition

Calling all budding architects, engineers and innovators: the charity My Environment My Future (MEMF) has launched its school competition. The competition challenges students aged 8–18 to redesign a local building or space, with a focus on sustainability. The submission deadline is 1st May.

[LEARN MORE](#)

NETWORKING MEETING



Last week, we held our first network meeting of the new year, focusing on food and food waste. Watch this meeting to:

- Learn from ProVeg about their School Plates programme: working with school catering teams to make the menu tastier, healthier, more economic and more sustainable.
- Receive information and advice from Suffolk County Council's Waste and Recycling Team on food waste reduction and recycling.
- Understand the support RHS offers schools around setting up a garden and growing food
- Hear from schools in the network taking steps to tackle food waste, reduce the carbon footprint of their school menus and educate students

[CLICK HERE](#)



NEWS

The Hardest Lesson

The Climate Majority Project's Climate Courage Schools has produced a powerful short film highlighting the importance of talking about climate change in the classroom, along with a new website and a library of climate courage profiles. Read about school staff who are weaving emotional resilience, systems thinking, and real-world adaptation into the heart of school life.

[READ MORE](#)

Count your Carbon Statistics Report

Eco-Schools have published the first report analysing schools' carbon emissions in England. The report highlights the areas driving emissions and where action is required, using data from over 1600 schools who used the Count Your Carbon calculator in the 2024/25 academic year.

[READ MORE](#)

New Hub for Active Travel Resources

Modeshift STARS has launched a new hub of resources to help schools encourage cycling, walking, and other active travel choices.

[READ MORE](#)

SMALL CHANGES, BIG IMPACT

Have you joined our network?

Please share and forward this email to your colleagues interested in sustainability. Anyone working in a school can join, including both teaching and operational staff, and membership is free!

SIGN UP

Our mailing address is:

sussn@suffolk.gov.uk

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