



SUFFOLK'S SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS NETWORK

December Newsletter



Welcome to our Christmas newsletter! We had a fantastic half term supporting schools across Suffolk to engage in sustainable practice. Eight free energy audits have been completed across secondary schools this term, and we are supporting those schools to identify their carbon emissions and create a **Climate Action Plan** to help decarbonise their estate.

We have launched our brand-new primary programme, **Our Schools, Our World** in partnership with Let's Go Zero (more information below). And finally, we are also working on developing an exciting new event for teachers in Suffolk - our first **Sustainability in Education Conference**.

[Get in touch with Becca](#)

Networking Meetings

Last week we held our second network meeting which focused on tools and support available for decarbonisation of school estates. A big thank you to [Count Your Carbon](#), [Energy Sparks](#) and [Eastern Multi-Academy Trust](#) for an informative and inspiring session! If you couldn't make the meeting, you can access the video below and the presentations [here](#).

Our next meeting will be on the 5th February and will be focusing on Green Careers. Register for our network meetings by using the QR codes below.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring 1
5 February
4-5:30pm

Green careers



Spring 2
19 March
4-5:30pm

Adaptation & Resilience



Summer 1
11 June
4-5:30pm

Biodiversity



Summer 2
2 July
Youth Climate
Conference

Climate action
planning

[Link for Recorded Sessions](#)

Sustainability in Education Conference

 SUFFOLK'S SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS NETWORK

CREATE YOUR SCHOOL'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

- 1 Energy Audit**
Join Suffolk's Sustainable Schools Network and book your free energy audit.

- 2 Set up your team**
Appoint a Sustainability Lead to lead a multi-stakeholder sustainability committee. Register them for free training and support.

- 3 Mapping**
Map your school site boundaries using National Education Nature Park's tools.

- 4 Climate Action plan**
Create your Climate Action Plan. Support available from 1 e's Go Zero.




The Department of Education expects all educational settings to have a **Sustainability Lead and Climate Action Plan (CAP)** in place by 2025. To support you in planning and delivering your CAP, we are organising a Sustainability in Education Conference on the 2nd April 2025 in Ipswich. This day event will be packed full of opportunities to find out more about enhancing climate and nature education, sustainable estate management and

Next steps
Explore funding opportunities, network with other sustainable schools and take action on sustainability issues.



developing robust climate action plans. Find out more information and sign up today!

[Sign up for the Conference](#)

Free Primary Sustainability Programme: Our Schools, Our World



**Our Schools,
Our World**


in partnership with
**LET'S GO
ZERO
2030**

[Our Schools, Our World](#) is a whole primary school initiative that enables staff, students and communities to learn effectively about sustainability, climate change and the environment and to develop skills and understanding about how to address local and global challenges. Suffolk councils are joining 5 other hubs across the country to deliver the programme and build a network of 150 schools working together to develop sustainable practice. Find out more by signing up to one of our information sessions in the New Year.

[Sign Up for the Information Session](#)

Decarbonisation: Let's Go Zero





Let's Go Zero [Climate Action Advisors](#) are experts offering **free support** to schools, colleges, and nurseries across England. They help schools understand their carbon impact, develop effective action plans, and identify funding and resources to make it all happen.

Whether a school is just beginning its sustainability journey or looking to take the next steps, the Climate Action Advisors provide tailored guidance to meet each school's needs. They also highlight local opportunities for schools to collaborate and strengthen their efforts.

Ready to take action? You can register with **Let's Go Zero** [here](#) or ask for support from your local Climate Action Advisor below.

[Sign up for Climate Action Advisor support](#)

Free Energy Audits



We have funding to provide 33 free energy audits to support secondary schools to develop effective climate action plans, now required by 2025. Our energy audits will support you to identify significant carbon saving opportunities whilst providing payback calculations. Following your energy audit, we are working with Let's Go Zero to provide follow-up support and help formalise your climate action plan.

[Sign up for your Free Energy Audit](#)

New Energy Sparks Offer for Secondary Schools



Energy Sparks

We are offering funding for Energy Sparks for 5 secondary schools in Suffolk! If you have completed one of our energy audits and have a decarbonisation plan in place, then you are eligible for our brand-new offer to support the adoption of Energy Sparks to reduce your carbon emissions and improve climate education. Find out more about **Energy Sparks** [here](#).

[Sign up for the Energy Sparks Offer](#)

Adaptation: Free Trees for Schools

Welcome to **Tree Tools for Schools!** Discover resources to support your free Woodland Trust tree pack and inspire pupils with outdoor learning.



Planning

Planting planner

Before you order, experiment by planting virtual tree packs on your land.



Order tree packs

Once you have your plan, order your FREE trees from The Woodland Trust.



Activities

Activities

Keep your pupils engaged with interactive resources and Nature Detectives activities.



Assembly

Inspire your whole school about trees! Download our free KS2 and KS3 assembly presentations.



Green Tree Schools Award

Activities to help you get your award.



Planting and tree care

Tree planting and care advice

Find out how to plant and look after your saplings.



Watch me grow!

Fast forward through the seasons and help your trees flourish.



Activity finder

Find an activity by curriculum link, keyword or topic.

The Woodland Trust are giving away free trees for schools and communities, across the UK. Trees are available in packs of 15, 30, 105 or 420 saplings, with a variety of species available. Planting trees at schools can not only help with increasing biodiversity and wildlife on school grounds, but have other benefits beyond absorbing CO2 that also help to mitigate climate change and associated environmental challenges. They soak up water when it rains and stores it in their roots and leaves, reducing the likelihood of flash floods, and provide much needed shade during extreme heat events.

Schools can also register for [The Woodland Trust's Green Tree Schools Award](#). This award is designed to encourage students to learn about wildlife and trees, with pupils taking part in projects to help the environment. and find a full range of educational resources at

Get your free trees

Biodiversity: The National Education Nature Park



The National Education Nature Park programme is designed to empower young people to make a positive difference to both their own and nature's future. These **free programmes** provide educators with the resources, support and guidance to embed climate and nature learning into a way that suits your setting and learners.

You can access resources for all key stages, and guides on how to use them at [Resources - Education Nature Park](#) and register at the link

below.

National Educational Nature Park

Climate Education: Teaching for Sustainable Futures

University College London (UCL) are offering free subject specific training for teachers and school staff, "Teaching for Sustainable Futures", on embedding sustainability and climate learning into the curriculum. The programme is suitable for all teachers, no matter what age and subject you work with, with UCL planning on creating subject specific content for primary and secondary students within the next academic year.

Find out more information [here](#) or register for training courses below.

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

UCL



Looking to The Future:
An Introduction to Climate Change and Sustainability in Schools

Presented by Dr Helen Czerski

Create an account with UCL

Hadleigh High School - Our Lucky Winners!





Hadleigh High School have been the lucky recipients of £150 towards the schools Eco Committee! By completing our feedback survey after [2024's Youth Climate Conference](#), the Eco Committee have won £150.

Katy Miller, teacher at Hadleigh High School said "The school are just ramping up everything we're doing for the environment and sustainability, thanks to lots of encouragement from Becca, her contacts and her webinars. The Eco Committee will be delighted and no doubt come up with countless plans on how to spend it."

Congratulations Hadleigh High School!



**SUFFOLK'S SUSTAINABLE
SCHOOLS 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 to the Network



Our mailing address is:

susssn@suffolk.gov.uk

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