

Bonitas Trust Sustainability and Climate Action Statement

This statement represents the Trust-wide framework for sustainability

The Bonitas Trust is committed to meaningful climate action and to embedding sustainability across every aspect of its work. This statement sets out our overarching vision for sustainability and is aligned with the UK Government's legal target to reach net zero by 2050, and the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (2022).

Our Vision

We fully support the Government's vision and are committed to delivering on the DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy's four strategic aims for education in England:

- Excellence in education and skills for a changing world
- Net Zero
- Resilience to climate change
- A better environment for future generations

These aims are underpinned by DfE-led initiatives developed with education and sustainability experts, which we will integrate into our Trust-wide and school-level planning. These include:

- Increasing opportunities for climate education and access to nature for all learners;
- Driving actions to enhance biodiversity and build climate resilience across school estates;
- Supporting a whole-setting approach to climate change and sustainability, where culture, leadership, curriculum, operations, and community engagement are aligned.

To deliver this vision, our MAT strategy is structured around four key pillars:

1. Climate Education

To embed climate literacy across the curriculum, ensuring every student develops the knowledge and confidence to make informed, sustainable choices. From early years to post-16, we will provide opportunities to learn about nature, climate, and sustainability — both in the classroom and through lived experience.

2. Decarbonisation and Sustainable Operations

The Trust will work with our schools to reduce our environmental impact by:

- Considering our carbon emissions and aiming to reduce annually;
- Devising energy efficiencies and where possible transitioning to renewable and low-carbon technologies;
- Ensuring responsible procurement and reducing waste;
- Ensuring our estate planning supports long-term environmental goals.

3. Climate Resilience

The trust will work with its schools to prepare for the realities of climate change, including weather-related risks and environmental degradation. This includes enhancing site biodiversity, improving flood resilience, and increasing green infrastructure across our estate.

4. Engagement and Leadership

The trust is committed to building a culture of sustainability and student leadership. Our schools will engage pupils, staff, families, and local communities in climate action — inspiring change locally and contributing to the UK's global leadership in education-led climate solutions.

Climate Action Plans (CAPs): Driving Our Sustainability Efforts

A Climate Action Plan (CAP) will guide each school and the Trust in achieving its sustainability goals. Action Plans will outline specific actions, measurable outcomes, and timelines for sustainability initiatives, ensuring that both action and education on sustainability are integrated across all settings.

Each school will develop and own its individual Climate Action Plan (CAP), aligned with this overarching strategy but tailored to the unique context of each school's estate, curriculum, and community. School leaders will ensure ongoing engagement and accountability of the CAP, with regular assessments of progress toward meeting sustainability targets.

Monitoring

Each school will report annually to the Trust Board, ensuring strategic oversight and that sustainability remains a key consideration in decision-making at all levels across the Trust. This will include evaluating the impact of sustainability efforts on student outcomes, operational efficiency, and community engagement, with a clear focus on continuous improvement and accountability across the Trust.