

Headlines for Schools/Academies to create an Annual Resilience Statement

February 2024

The aim of this document is to be adapted by the Senior Leadership team for governing boards and bodies at church schools and academies to work to reduce year on year emissions and shift school decision making, policy and practice toward a more sustainable future; placing future generations at the heart of decision making and reporting.

The aim of this template resolution is to reaffirm the initial declaration to work towards reaching net zero carbon on an annual basis and report on key themes to keep the governing body, members (for academies), wider school community and the diocese informed of progress on key metrics.

Resources to have to hand: the Execution Planning [Gaant Chart](#); recommendations from the [Count Your Carbon](#) Toolkit; [Energy & Buildings Self Audit](#).



Suggested wording/areas for inclusion

Chair statement

- The [governing body/board] reaffirm the declaration to take action to reduce year on year emissions and to take all reasonable steps to establish evidence led planning for achieving a net zero carbon school/estate by 2030 and beyond. In the face of unprecedented challenges, our school/academy is working to future proof the estate, for the benefit of current and prospective communities. Recognising that governance is the engine for change, this annual report on the delivery of objectives in key areas will be shared as good practice and learning with the Diocesan Board of Education.

Sustainability Lead update

- An update on progress on embedding objectives ([for example using smart meter data in the classroom](#))
- Evidencing how the voices of Children and Young People have been heard in the programmes brought forward.
- Reporting on how the school/academy community is actively promoting sustainable habits and behaviour changes including:
- Policies (for example reporting on the school/academy [Estates Vision and Strategy](#))
- Programmes (for example [STEM learning, National Education Nature Park, Climate Leaders Award](#))
- Investment (refer to recommendations within the Buildings Self Audit)
- Outlining investments with clear timelines (for example update on implementing the Capital Asset Management Planning (see [GEMs](#)))
- Outlining key measurable metrics (suggest use the Practical Path checklist for support if needed)
- Updating on progress indicators (update on any Heat Decarbonisation Plan objectives where provided)
- Reporting on decision making that effects/impacts on the delivery of the net zero carbon target (for example condition need impacting on ability secure renewable systems – eg roof structure not able to support solar PV)
- Reporting on enabling works required to retrofit the school estate(s) (for example making the building(s) more efficient through better insulation or installing LED lighting) (Self Audit Recommendations)

Suggested wording/areas for inclusion continued...

Climate resilience

- Setting out the short-, medium- and long-term risks of climate change on the school estate and how those are reported on and mitigated (for example flooding or overheating risks)
- Using the data from classroom CO2 monitors to map heat loss and temperature across all classrooms and indicate where measures are required to improve the classroom environment and air quality.

Count Your Carbon results

- Reporting the headline figures from the Toolkit for the school estate including (providing annual comparison data if available):
- School Carbon Footprint =
- Per pupil carbon footprint =
- DEC Rating =
- An update on working effectively with the Diocesan Board of Education to benchmark data
- Reporting on any recommendations

Heating systems – (refer to the Climate Resilience Planning Tool)

- Reporting on the type of heating system (gas boiler, oil etc)
- Establishing the age of the boiler and eligibility for funding
- Where applicable providing a 'how to fail well plan' should the system fail - for example Understanding electrical capacity
- Reporting on any critical maintenance requirements and projected costs

Green Energy

- Energy bills suggest mapping usage & cost over three years
- Indicate when the tariff is due for renewal
- Highlight if the tariff is a 'green tariff' and advice from the DfE School Commercial Services Procurement team.

*Please remember to copy your **Annual Resilience Statements** to your Diocesan Board of Education to seek support and to help inform local and national reporting. Get help from Ashden Climate Action Advisors and the CofE National Framework via your Diocesan Board of Education.*