



## West Buckland Primary School & Nursery

### Climate Change and Sustainability Statement

The Richard Huish Trust and West Buckland Primary School believe in reducing our carbon footprint, caring for our environment and all playing our part in protecting our planet.

We recognise that young people are worried about climate change and want to learn about the impact it is having now and how it will impact their future lives. Through education we have the opportunity to teach children how they can do their best to protect and influence their community. We will provide opportunities to develop a broad understanding of the importance of sustainability and the causes and impact of climate change.

Through the Sustainability Strategy,

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1031454/SCC\\_DRAFT\\_Strategy.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1031454/SCC_DRAFT_Strategy.pdf) the Department for Education (DfE), sets four aims:

**Preparing all young people for a world impacted by climate change through learning and practical experience.** At West Buckland we have assemblies, themed days and workshops, trips and visitors, to support this message. We also have a very active Green Team, elected members who are echo warriors around our site. Our Science Curriculum includes an emphasis on nature and the recognition of species – including species native to the United Kingdom – to ensure all children understand the world around them. Our PSHE Curriculum includes climate change and sustainability aspects. We continue to work with our families to reduce emissions and ensure our air is of the best quality.

**Providing opportunities for children and young people to engage practically with the net zero concept.** At West Buckland we work hard to reduce our carbon footprint. We recycle, we re-use, we make conscious purchases and we actively seek ways to reduce our waste. We ensure our equipment is serviced and as energy efficient as possible. Our Curriculum provides opportunities for our pupils to experience and learn about nature on site, within the local area and beyond our community. We support children to research and ensure they are well informed, to form their own views and express these accordingly.

**To mitigate against the worst impacts of climate change in our education and care buildings and infrastructure.** At West Buckland we have a conditions survey to ensure our buildings are as environmentally friendly as possible. We continue to explore the possibility of adding solar panels to our roof and monitor the amount of heating oil and gas we consume closely. We take proactive measures to ensure doors, windows, lights, fixtures and fittings are performing as they should. We continue to develop partnerships with the Environment Agency, Water Companies and Local Authorities to reduce flood risk at our setting. We actively work with agencies to share examples of best practice and resources that support food waste prevention. Our work with our meals provider is around how we can ensure our supply and demand is sustainable and how we can reduce waste even further.

**To increase access to nature in and around education and care settings.** At West Buckland we have a dedicated wildlife area, we plant trees and engage with local nature such as the park, local farms and stables and build homes for creatures most in need of protection. Our Geography Curriculum seeks partnerships which support the knowledge and understanding of our children around urbanisation, eco-tourism, pollution and waste management.