

# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

In association with EAUC, STEM Learning and the University of Reading

## Sustainability Leadership

By 2025 all education settings in England should have a nominated sustainability lead. Sustainability leadership could be a group of people, or an individual, responsible for the development and implementation of a climate action plan (CAP). A sustainability team could be set up across an individual setting or a multi academy trust (MAT).

## A whole setting approach

Best practice shows that change is delivered when driven by a diverse team of passionate individuals. It is important that the whole education setting, or trust, is engaged so that planning becomes action. Remember to include both educational and operational expertise in this team. When forming the sustainability team it is best to take a whole setting approach. A sustainability leadership team should include:

- **Learners**- involving learners is important in climate action planning and can:
  - inspire their enthusiasm to help drive positive change
  - increase their practical knowledge of sustainability and climate change
  - give young people a sense of agency where anxiety stems from climate concerns
  - create a sense of pride in their education setting
  - enable them to share their knowledge and enthusiasm in their local communities
  - engage their parents, carers, and wider community in sustainability & climate change
- **Teachers**- identify where climate change and sustainability teaching fits into the curriculum and embed this into learning. Support with extra-curricular activities.
- **Senior leadership team, governors, trustees and executive leaders**- critical for planning and implementation to be successful. They have the authority, capacity, and support to influence and lead strategic change within the setting and ensure climate change and sustainability feature on the agenda at key meetings.
- **Estates management**- important the estates manager or management team inform the CAP as they have the knowledge required to enact more sustainable practices.
- **Parent/ Carer**- support with education settings sustainability projects and encourage other parents/carers to participate and take climate action.

## Student eco committee

A student led eco committee could complement the sustainability leadership team. An eco committee is a group of students who focus on empowering young people to lead environmental action and education in their school, local community and beyond.

The eco committee should be student led, however can be supported by one or more adult sustainability leads. All students should have the opportunity to be involved and all ages should be represented. The eco committee should meet regularly to discuss, plan and deliver environmental projects. Thoughts and ideas can be fed back to the sustainability leadership team.

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