 **Combe Pre-school Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan 2025 to 2026**

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| **Goal** | **Action** | **Steps** | **Timeline for the action or expected completion date** | **Resources** |
| **Saving Water** | Reduce amount of water children play with both inside and outside.  Teach/remind children to turn off taps.  Promote conserving water campaign.  Install a water butt to collect rainwater to water plants and to use in the mud kitchen. | 1. Staff to provide water for children and limit the amount they give to children, especially during times of drought and when local hose pipe ban is in place. Children to learn that once the water is gone, it won’t be replaced.  2.  Staff explain to children why it’s important to conserve water through discussion and reading stories.  Staff to encourage children to turn off taps after use and explain why.  Staff to display posters, provide newsletter and links on how to save water at home.  Purchase suitable water butt. Staff to teach children how to use and teach children the importance of saving water. | * 12 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 4 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 12 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. | * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team   [How to conserve water | The Wildlife Trusts](https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-conserve-water)   * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior leadership team. * Books/stories, posters,videos * [Saving water | Water UK](https://www.water.org.uk/water-supply/saving-water) * [Managing water in your garden / RHS](https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardening-for-the-environment/water) * Managers to sorce and purchase water butt. * All staff to monitor and teach children how to use. |
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| **Saving Electricity** | Turn off lights when not required. Switch off and pull-out plugs when not in use. Turn temperature of heating and water down to reduce use of electricity.  Replacement lights must be LED where possible. | 1. Staff to use judgement to turn off lights on brighter days.  2.  Staff to turn off switches and pull-out plugs that are not in use daily.  3. Staff turn heating and water temperature down when it reaches a comfortable level.  1. Staff to inform managers if lights stop working. Managers inform Hub committee to advice on replacements. | * 4 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 4 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. | * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team   [Join Switch Off Fortnight to help save energy - Energy Saving Trust](https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/campaign/switch-off-fortnight/)  [Energy Saving Trust](https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/)   * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team |

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| **Use Biodegradable art and craft materials and natural materials for sensory play.** | When existing products have run out, purchase biodegradable glitter and introduce natural paints to children. Use recycled items to create models using paper tape. | 1. Chairperson/ staff to buy and source biodegradable art materials and recyclable items for children to use. 2. Use natural materials for sensory play activities. | * 12 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. | * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Chairperson. * Mud, sand, grass, flowers, petals to make natural paints. * Purchase biodegradable glitter.   [Homemade Natural Colouring - The Imagination Tree](https://theimaginationtree.com/homemade-natural-colouring/)  [Natural Dyes for Play Dough - The Imagination Tree](https://theimaginationtree.com/natural-dyes-for-play-dough/) |

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| **Planting own vegetables.**  **Plant flowers to attract pollinators into garden area** | During spring months, plants vegetables and flowers with children. | 1. Staff to teach children to plant vegetable seeds, plants and flowers with children. 2. Staff to encourage children to care for seeds and plants and discuss what they need to grow. 3. Staff to encourage children to observe the growth of seeds/plants and look for bees and butterflies. 4. Staff encourage children to eat vegetables at snack times or cook with them | * 12 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. | * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team. * Seeds, peat free compost, plants, gardening tools, plant feed, pots, planters and watering cans. * Books/stories about planting and pollinators such as bees and butterflies. |

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| **Saving Waste - Repair and/or repurpose items and recycle.** | When existing equipment or toys are broken or damaged, decide if they can be repaired or repurposed  Recycle items  Food waste  Unwanted toys  Purchasing New toys  Old plastic toys | Staff to inform managers of any broken or damaged items.  Managers to contact Chairperson to find someone in the community to help repair or repurpose items.  Staff to encourage children to place recyclable items into red recycling bin. Staff to teach children that items can be made into something new and different.  Staff encourage children to place unwanted food in food bin.  Staff to take unwanted toys to charity shop if in good condition.  Staff to purchase second hand toys from charity shop to help recycle items. Try to purchase new wooden items and limit buying plastic toys if possible.  Only dispose of plastic toys when they have come to the end of their life e.g. broken or damaged to help limit waste going into landfill. | * 12 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 4 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 3 months * End of 2025 to 2026 academic year. * 3 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 * 12 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 * 3 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 | * Staff involved: Operational staff, senior leadership team, Chairperson. * Staff involved:   Operational staff. Senior leadership team.   * Recycling books/stories * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior leadership team. * Food bags & bin. * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior leadership staff. * Staff involved: operation staff, senior leadership staff and chairperson. * Staff involved: operation staff, senior leadership staff and chairperson. |

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| **Outdoor and Nature** | Teach children about life cycles, animals, trees and plants and our natural world.  Celebrate World Bee Day and other events such as Earth Day, Clean up Day, and other days that focus on our planet and wildlife. Mini topics on insects and pollinators. | Staff to teach children about life cycles of animals/insects through stories, observing tadpoles and butterflies, and reading books together at appropriate times of the year.  Staff educate children about how to look after our planet and its plants and wildlife. Staff to take children on litter picks around the playing field and pre-school gardens to learn how dropping litter is bad for the environment and wildlife. | * 12 months * End of year academic year 2025 to 2026. * 12 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026. | * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior leadership team. * Insect lore butterflies, books, insect toys, and tadpoles form staff garden. * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior leadership team. * Insect and animal toys, habitat resources, books, stories, litter pickers. |

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| **Transport: Reduce car pollution** | Encourage cycling and walking to pre-school to families who live in the local area.  Encourage active travel by encouraging staff to cycle to work. | Staff to display poster to promote cycling, walking and using public transport to travel to and from pre-school.  Staff talk to children about the healthy benefits of cycling and walking to pre-school.  Promote amongst staff and discuss benefits to such as reducing pollution and improving air quality. | * 12 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 * 12 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 | * Healthy cycling /walking posters. Public transport poster leaflets. * Stories about cycling, walking and its benefits, books about pollution and using public transport. * Staff involved: operational staff and senior leadership staff. * Display posters. * Staff involved: senior leadership staff. |

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| **Air quality**  **Dehumidifier** | Improve quality of air inside pre-school.  Improve air quality and remove condensation during colder months to prevent mould occurring. | Position plants around the different rooms to help absorb toxins and carbon dioxide from the air and break them down.  Staff to switch on dehumidifier during colder months but monitor how long it is on for due to use of electricity. | * 3 months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 * During winter months * End of academic year 2025 to 2026 | * Compost, plant pots, plants, take cuttings. * Staff involved: Operational staff and senior staff. * Dehumidifier * Staff involved: operational staff and senior staff |

Review date: August/ September 2026