

Climate Change Summer Term Update: May 2026



BOOK NOW: Climate Change Key Stage 2 pupil event 5th Nov at Harlow Carr Gardens, Harrogate. Bring along a group from your school council, Healthy Schools or Eco Schools team to join us for our climate change focused pupil event. Book here: [Climate Change Key Stage 2 pupil event | NYES Info](#)

UPLOAD YOUR CLIMATE ACTION PLAN: The next deadline to upload your Climate Action Plan to the Healthy School website to receive feedback, logo and a certificate is 12th June. Upload here: [Healthy Schools North Yorkshire](#)



TAKE ACTION: Focus on Spring Growing.



Recommended jobs from Grow to School (from their monthly bulletin containing a selection of activities to do in and around the garden). Plant & sow spring crops: It's time for more spring planting! Potatoes and onions should be in the ground this month, alongside plug plants such as: beetroot, cabbages, purple sprouting broccoli and leeks. Now's the time to start sowing lettuce, peas, spinach, coriander, radish and

flower seeds.

Pigeons love the taste of young cabbage plants and the cabbage white butterflies are looking for a cabbage leaf to lay their eggs on. Cover the cabbage straight after planting and watering with mesh netting that lets light and water in and keeps insects and birds out. Why not give older children a D&T challenge to make their own protective structures using bamboo canes, flower pots and mesh netting.



If you're not a Growbag school, do take a look at their website [Welcome to Grow to School - Grow To School](#) or contact grow@growtoschool.co.uk. There are special offers for schools in North Yorkshire, and the monthly newsletter is available for all schools to sign up to.

TAKE ACTION: [50 Eco-Projects](#) is a fantastic resource for inspiration for eco activities from Eco-Schools. It brings together ready-to-go projects from a range of charities and organisations. Projects like [Re\(love\) Our Fashion](#) or [Running a Sporty Eco-Pledge Event](#). This can be part of your Climate Action Plan and/or for Eco-Schools 2026 Green Flag. The Green Flag submission window is open until 31 July, giving you time to start your application, celebrate the work you've done this year, deliver any final activities, and submit your application.

TAKING ACTION: Spotlight on Esk Valley. The [River Esk Connect \(REConnect\)](#)



team are connecting young people with rivers, estuaries and seas to showcase all that the River Esk has to offer. Working with East Whitby Academy they have created a ½ day River Study looking at 'The Calla' aka Spital Beck, playing pooh sticks with numeracy included, looking at tributaries, meanders and walking to the Esk estuary itself. Partnering with Esk Energy to deliver a ½ day session touring the hydro plant at Ruswarp and looking at the features of the river in this area with its historic mill, weir and railway crossing.

The project's engagement officers are also available to come out to schools to deliver outreach sessions, delivering assemblies about the challenges and improvements to the River Esk and workshops featuring clay and Lego based habitat modelling to replicate some of the Nature-based Solutions Groundwork have been installing in the Esk Estuary. Schools in or near the catchment area should contact REConnect to get involved: reconnect@northyorkmoors.org.uk.

TAKING ACTION ON ACTIVE TRAVEL:

Congratulations to Malton Primary Academy in Malton, and Willow Tree Primary School in Harrogate who have both received National accreditation for active travel to school. If your school is interested in free support email opennorthyorkshire@northyorks.gov.uk and start your journey to a safer, cleaner school run today. Schools in North Yorkshire can also take advantage of free places to sign up for WOW. Places are still available for the summer term, and next academic year.

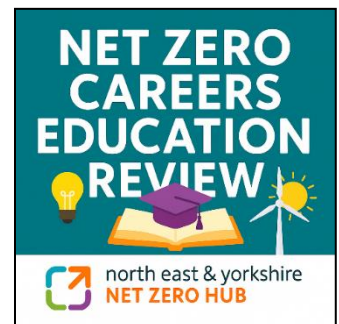


TRAINING

Let's Go Zero: Buying Better: How School Procurement Can Cut Carbon Without Costing the Earth 3:45 - 4:45pm Thursday 9th July. [Free online workshops](#). Did you know that purchasing accounts for 16% of a school's carbon footprint on average? This webinar will introduce some simple actions and key areas to investigate.

National Emergency Briefing for School Teachers sign up for staffroom screenings of the, a 38-minute summary from leading experts. The film was edited by teachers for teachers and comes with a support booklet to guide discussion and next steps. [REGISTER for the National Emergency](#)

NET ZERO Careers: Findings from an independent review into Net Zero careers support provision will be presented online on Thursday June 11th at 11am. Results of the review will be presented, alongside best practice case studies from the National Grid. Find out how to work with the Net Zero Hub to embed clean energy and Net Zero into skills and careers activities. To attend the event, [please register your interest here](#).



FUNDING:

[Partnership Grants | Royal Society](#) The programme awards grants of up to £3,000 to primary and secondary schools to support the teaching of STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Tomorrow's Climate Scientists is an extension to the funding where Schools can apply for grants to provide an opportunity for students to have a voice in the direction of scientific research around climate change and biodiversity by working with their STEM partner. It also supports students to develop green skills as the UK moves towards a net zero future. Please do contact us if you would like to submit a project and need help finding a STEM partner or developing your project proposal. climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk



FUNDING:

[Tesco Fruit & Veg Grants](#): This grant funding programme invites schools, registered charities and not-for-profit organisations supporting children to apply for up to £1,500 to improve access to fruit and veg.

[Branching Out Fund Application Guidance 2026/27](#): The Tree Council is offering grants of between £250 and £2,500 for schools to deliver tree-planting projects during the 2026/27 Winter planting season.

[nBS Foundation - npower Business Solutions](#): The Npower foundation provides funding to "Decarbonise and safeguard our world". Projects funded in North Yorkshire last year include Air Source Heat Pumps, Solar Batteries, and support for eco learning. All schools within a 50miles radius of Leeds can apply for funding.

Coppice Valley Primary School, Harrogate got funding for a dedicated natural space designed to support pupils in learning about the environment while actively enhancing biodiversity across the school grounds. The space features wildflower meadows, new tree planting and a range of wildlife habitats, including bug hotels and bird boxes. Cameras have also been installed to allow pupils to observe and track wildlife over time.

[Free visits for schools | Royal Institution](#): Applications open to applications from schools seeking a fully-funded Science in Schools day in the 2026-27 academic year. The closing date is Friday, 5 June. Through this annual scheme, the Ri offers free visits from our professional presenters worth £800.

TAKE PART SECONDARY (AND ALL STAFF): Have your say for a sustainable York and North Yorkshire: Your students (and your) views are needed to help shape a major new strategy by the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority aimed at creating a sustainable future for the region. Survey here: [Strategy for a Sustainable Future | Public Consultation](#) Deadline 10th June.

Thank you for reading, please do contact us for any further support:
HealthySchools@northyorks.gov.uk

