



Bledlow Ridge School

Climate Action Impact Report: 2024-25

February 2026





This report covers:

- 1. Year 1 - Highlights**
- 2. Year 1 – Action Taken**
- 3. Carbon Emissions and Data Analysis**
- 4. Year 2 - Suggested Actions**
- 5. Next Steps**

Year 1 Highlights!



Taking action to improve biodiversity and support wildlife both on and off the school site.



Running a variety of educational events and campaigns with the school community.



Successfully awarded several pots of funding to help deliver climate and nature actions.



Year 1 – Action Taken

Energy

- Thermal camera survey of school carried out by 'Save Energy' (Community Benefit Society)
- Insulation draft excluder material installed
- Delivered 'Keep School Warm' messaging.

Transport

- Delivered Bikeability training earlier in year to give more chance to embed with Y6s.
- Eco team encouraged more active travel during pick up with emissions signage.

Food

- Catering staff attended online ProVeg 'School Plates' training
- Catering staff took active steps to reduce food waste

Waste and Procurement

- Second-hand uniform shed installed
- Took steps to actively reduce paper consumption



Year 1 – Action Taken

Nature

- Y6 working closely with Chiltern Rangers on conservation projects
- Started a Gardening and Wildlife Club – achieved RHS Level 2
- Engaging with the National Education Nature Park scheme
- ‘Natural Connections’ planting carried out improve the biodiversity of the site
- Successfully applied for grant funding to support wildlife habitat developments

Y6 enjoyed working with Chiltern Rangers, learning how to use bow saws and loppers to open up a pathway to diversify habitats in the young woodland at Wigans Lane.

They worked together to cut back trees and create dead hedges. As branches decompose, they will provide nest sites, food and homes for a range of birds and invertebrates, before returning nutrients to the soil to be used again.

Using the tools was most children's highlight, but also purposeful time outdoors as one child poetically put it "feeling nature's breeze".

"Y6 drew on all their experience to help Chiltern Rangers enhance the habitat at Deanfield Farm for the Duke of Burgundy butterfly. This Red List species is classed as Vulnerable in Britain and Threatened across Europe, so it is a great opportunity for us as a school to be involved in this important conservation project.

The children worked really well together, cutting back scrub to create sheltered glades and planting cowslips which are the caterpillar food plant. Hopefully this will be the site of new population in years to come."



Year 1 – Action Taken



Climate Education + Culture

- Eco team held assembly presenting the carbon footprint of the school to pupils
- Utilising National Education Nature Park resources with classes.
- Held a community tree planting event
- Developed woodland area and seating so can be used as an outdoor classroom
- Invited 'Save Energy' to deliver Family Learning Evening to discuss home energy-efficiency.
- Communicated eco work in newsletters.



Estimated Carbon Emissions



Baseline (2024):
Calculated: Dec 2024

126 tonnes CO₂e
Per pupil (181): 0.69 tCO₂e

End of Year 1 (2025):
Calculated: Feb 2026

153 tonnes CO₂e
Per pupil (179): 0.85 tCO₂e

Approximate % change: 21% increase

Data Notes:

Count Your Carbon (CYC) data is to be used as an estimation. Ongoing collection and comparison of raw data is the best method for understanding the impact of your actions. Where a direct comparison cannot be accurately made, this is shown as grey or N/A.

Direct comparisons cannot be drawn between some datasets for the following reasons:

- **Fuel:** CNG not included in Baseline calculation year.
- **Meals:** Incorrect data provided – no vegan meals listed.

Additional changes from originally provided carbon footprint:

- Ongoing developments are made to the tool and its calculation methods, in line with annually updated DEFRA emissions calculation standards. This can have an impact on differences shown between the two data-sets – e.g. with commuting.
- Key methodology change - uniform no longer included in total.
- Original footprint calculation used formula based on 12 miles furthest distance vs 3.3 average (using 0-5 tally) calculations have been re-run for this area to provide a more direct comparison, using 3.3 miles for both years.

		Estimated Total Emissions tCO ₂ e		
		Baseline (2024)	End of Year 1 (2025)	% Change to Baseline
Total Pupils		181	179	-1%
TOTAL EMISSIONS CO ₂ e:		125.8	152.8	21%
Energy and Utilities	Fuel Usage	9.8	28.0	N/A
	Electricity Usage	5.9	6.0	2%
	Waste Usage	0.0	0.1	10%
	Water Usage	0.3	0.2	-33%
Transport	Vehicles	0.0	0.0	0%
	School Trips	3.4	2.0	-41%
	Student Commutes	39.5	37.0	-6%
	Staff Commutes	9.4	8.6	-9%
Food	Meals	30.6	44.4	N/A
Purchases	Spending	26.9	26.5	-1%

Count Your Carbon – Raw Data Notes



Pupils changed: Decreased 181 to 179 (~1%)

Staff changed: 23 to 20 (~13%)

Energy & Utilities

- **Natural Gas: Increased 41%** 45,818 kWh to 64,650 kWh (Difference of 18,832kwh - **approx. £1,318** more using average cost of £0.07/kwh
Note: Included CNG, but didn't in baseline year.
- **Energy:** Increased 2% 23,035 kWh to 23,674 kWh (Difference of 639kwh - **approx. £147** more using average cost of £0.23/kwh)
- **Water:** Decreased 8% 685m³ to 630m³ (Difference of 55m³ - however cost went up from £2,715 to £3,000)

Student Commute

- Pupil car use: Increased 1% - from 55% to 56%
- Pupil walk and wheel: Decreased 4% - from 40% to 36%

Food: **Error note:** Data incorrect as menu shows that caterers provide 2-3 vegan options a week – suggest reviewing for accuracy.

Procurement Costs:

- Cleaning supplies: Increased £100 to £4,756
- Electronics: Increased £7,500 to £9,000
- Furniture: Increased £1,000 to £6,700
- Textiles: Increased £0 to £200
- Manufactured goods: Decreased £18,000 to £9,000
- Building services: Increased £39,000 to £47,000
- IT services: Decreased £26,000 to £13,250
- Security services: Increased £0 to £100
- Professional services: Decreased £10,000 to £3,500



Energy Data Comparison - kWh

Fuel kWh:

Increased 41%

Approx. **£1,300*** increased spend.

(Natural Gas only, not including CNG)

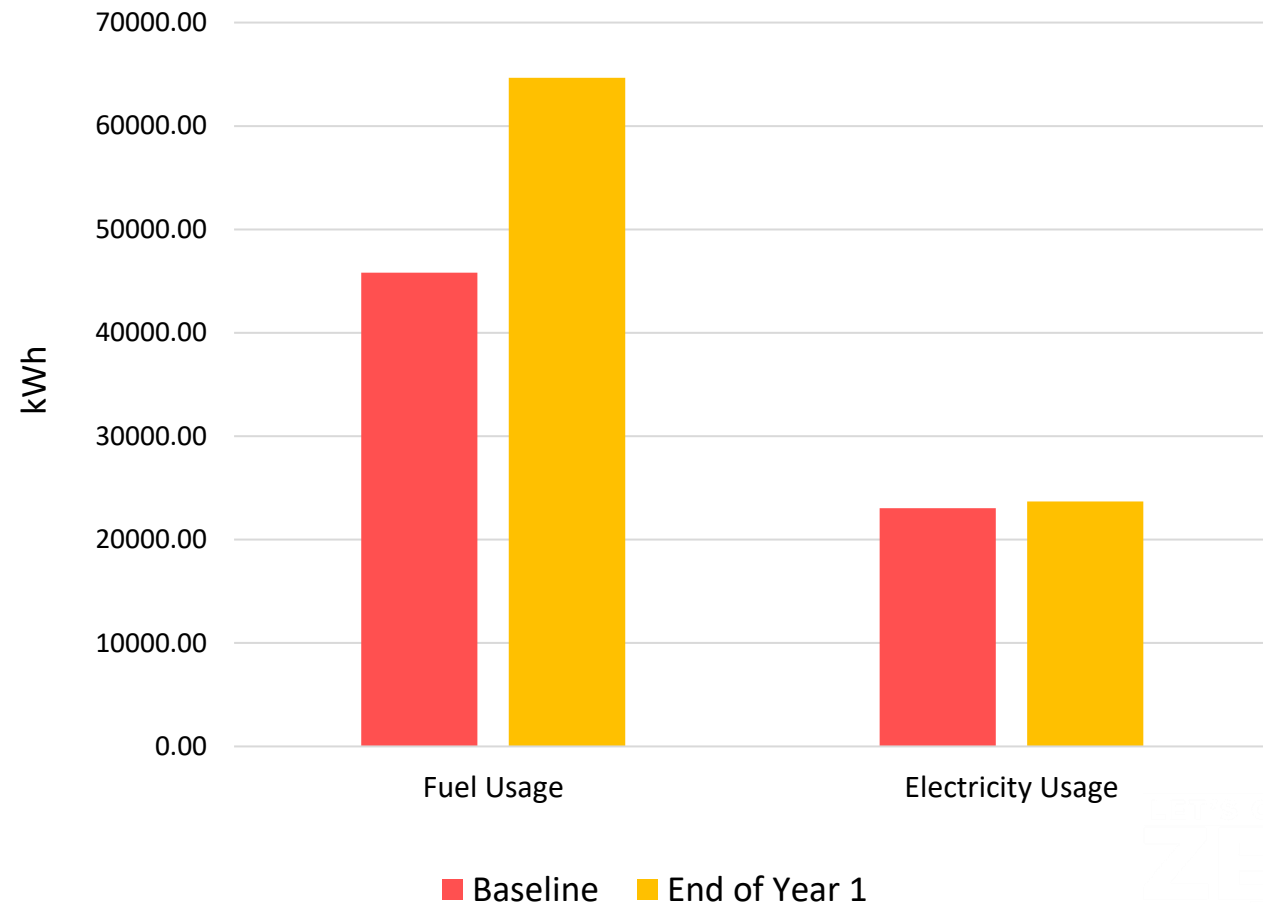
Electricity kWh:

Increased 2%

Approx. **£147*** increased spend.

* Using estimates of £0.07/kWh for gas and £0.23/kWh for electricity

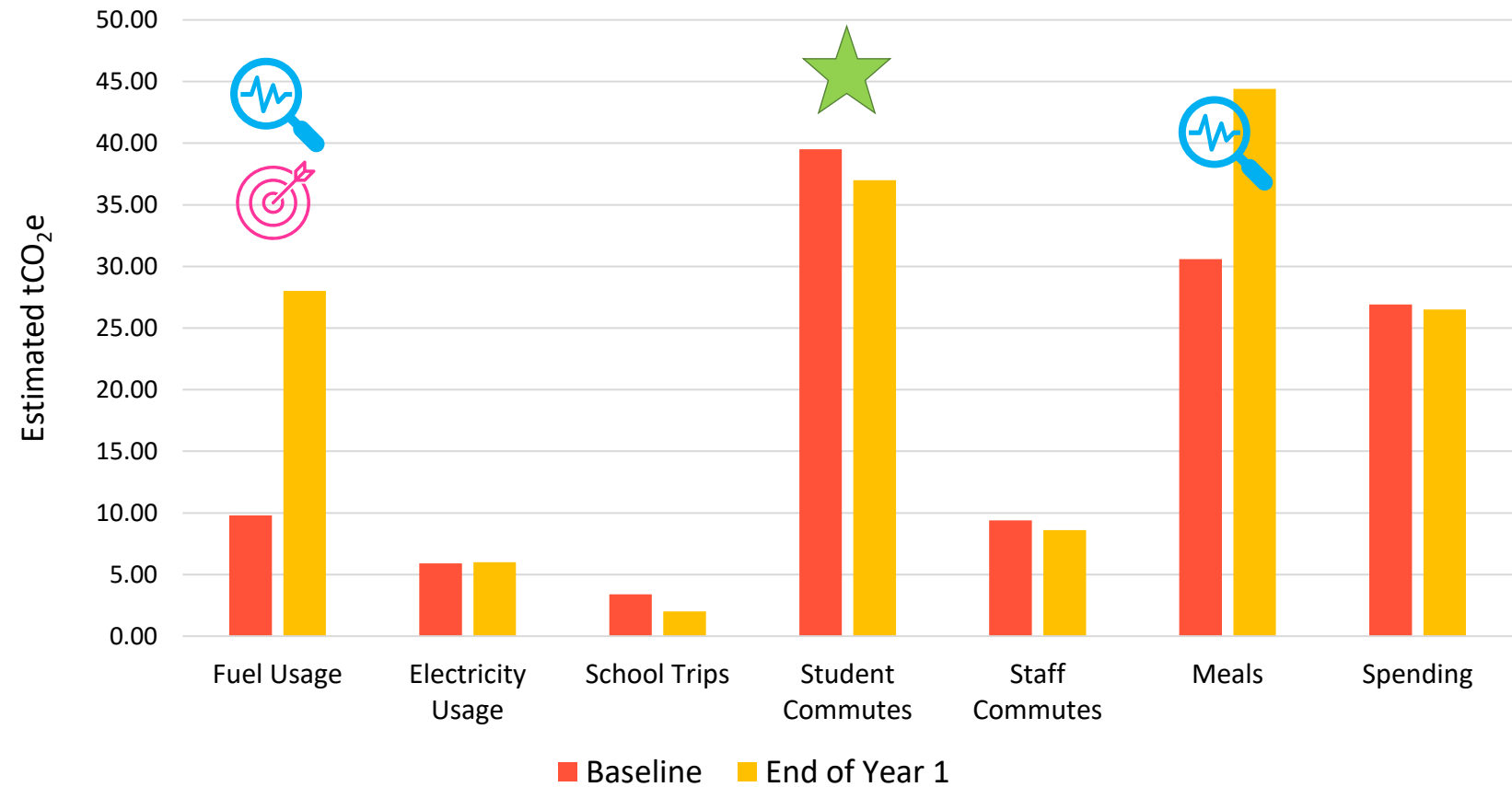
Baseline (2024) vs Y1 (2025) – kWh



Carbon Emission – Data Comparison



Baseline vs Y1 – Estimated Carbon Emissions tCO₂e



Key



Emissions reduced due to school's action



Target area to reduce over the next year



CYC Methodology / Data-issue

Year 2 – Suggested Actions



Energy - *core focus for Year 2 Climate Action Plan*

- Install a smart meter
- Optimise your heating system settings and put procedures in place to frequently check heating and hot water settings to ensure efficient timings and temperatures set.
- Explore how you could improve the insulation and energy efficiency of your buildings
- Monitor energy use on a regular basis through dedicated platforms
- Incentivise students to address energy usage - e.g. via a Energy Champions initiative
- Improve energy-efficiency behaviours with staff throughout the school, using reminders and automating power down settings on electricals

Transport

- Develop an active travel plan with Modeshift STARS

Food

- Take steps to regularly measure and reduce food waste
- Teach about the importance of sustainable food choices during lessons, assemblies etc and link with gardening plans.
- Grow a range of herbs, vegetables and fruit on site.

Actions rolled over
from Year 1

Actions to build on
success from Year 1

New suggested
actions for Year 2

Year 2 – Suggested Actions



Waste

- Carry out a bin audit to ensure mandatory recycling requirements are being met
- Actively encourage and enable community reuse

Procurement

- Develop your uniform exchange and extend existing re-use practices
- Follow sustainable practices when choosing products

Adaptation & Resilience

- Ensure school is prepared for heat resilience by providing sufficient levels of shade/ shelter/ heat reflective measures throughout the school grounds (internally and externally)
- Consider rainwater harvesting via water butts / IBC tanks to support with gardening and new planting.

Nature

- Engage in the free National Education Nature Park programme and encourage all teaching staff to use resources.
- Increase planting and biodiversity to support local wildlife
- Participate in local efforts to promote and protect nature (continue Chiltern Rangers nature programme)
- Have pupils carry out wildlife surveys

Actions rolled over
from Year 1

Actions to build on
success from Year 1

New suggested
actions for Year 2

Year 2 – Suggested Actions



Culture

- Run regular school-wide sustainability initiatives and events to involve all pupils (and parents).
- Communicate your sustainability efforts and success frequently through newsletters, social media and website

Climate Education & Green Skills

- Engage with local and national organisations and individuals to arrange visits, workshops and trips – e.g. Climate Ambassadors scheme
- Complete a curriculum audit and amend your curriculum to incorporate sustainability – e.g. Engage with National Education Nature Park programme and resources
- Establish methods and systems to share best practice and ideas internally

Actions rolled over
from Year 1

Actions to build on
success from Year 1

New suggested
actions for Year 2

Next steps

March 2026

Receive and finalise your Year 2 Climate Action Plan, along with any additional guidance.

Celebrate and share success and progress to date from Year 1 CAP, as well as upcoming plans, with wider school community.

September 2026

Mid-plan check in with Climate Action Advisor.

Meeting with CAA to discuss the progress of your actions so far.

Explore what has been going well, what additional support, information and guidance you may need.

Jan-Feb 2027

School to review their progress to date and draft their own Year 3 Climate Action Plan.

School to collect their Count Your Carbon data and use the tool to calculate their own carbon footprint, with CAA support where required.

Feb-March 2027

12-month check in with Climate Action Advisor.

Meeting with CAA to discuss the success and progress made from the Year 2 Climate Action Plan.

CAA to review the drafted Year 3 Climate Action Plan and provide any additional guidance.

You can contact your Climate Action Advisor (CAA) anytime with questions or progress updates.

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