

CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

The Climate Ambassador programme

Turning climate ambition
into climate action in education

Devon Association of Governance Annual Conference 2024

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The DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy

Published by the government in April 2022, it states that all education settings have a Climate Action Plan in place by December 2025 with a named Sustainability Lead.

It adopts a whole institution approach and addresses four pillars:

- Decarbonisation
- Adaptation and Resilience
- Biodiversity
- Climate Education and Green Careers



Policy paper

**Sustainability and
climate change: a
strategy for the
education and children's
services systems**

Updated 20 December 2023

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Introducing the 4 Pillars: a whole institution approach



Decarbonisation

Decarbonise
across their
operations &
estate.



Adaptation and resilience

Adapt & build
resilience against
climate change
risks.



Biodiversity

Increase
biodiversity
across sites.



Climate education and green careers

Weave **climate**
education into
delivery & develop
skills for green jobs.

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Our objective

To provide education settings with access to specialist support from a diverse network of **volunteers** from across private, public, charity and education sectors who can offer guidance and support to help develop and deliver impactful **Climate Action Plans**

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Why does the programme exist?

- **Supports the DfE sustainability and climate change strategy and is funded by the DfE.**
- Development of impactful **climate action plans** that support sustainability and **motivate young people** in climate action.
- **Provision of free guidance, support to education settings** (nurseries, schools, colleges).
- Consortium of 15 organisations, in partnership with the Met Office as the South West hub.

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Our delivery model

Regional hubs

Supported by a national infrastructure

Operating in a well-coordinated ecosystem

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Digital Infrastructure



Training and Mentoring



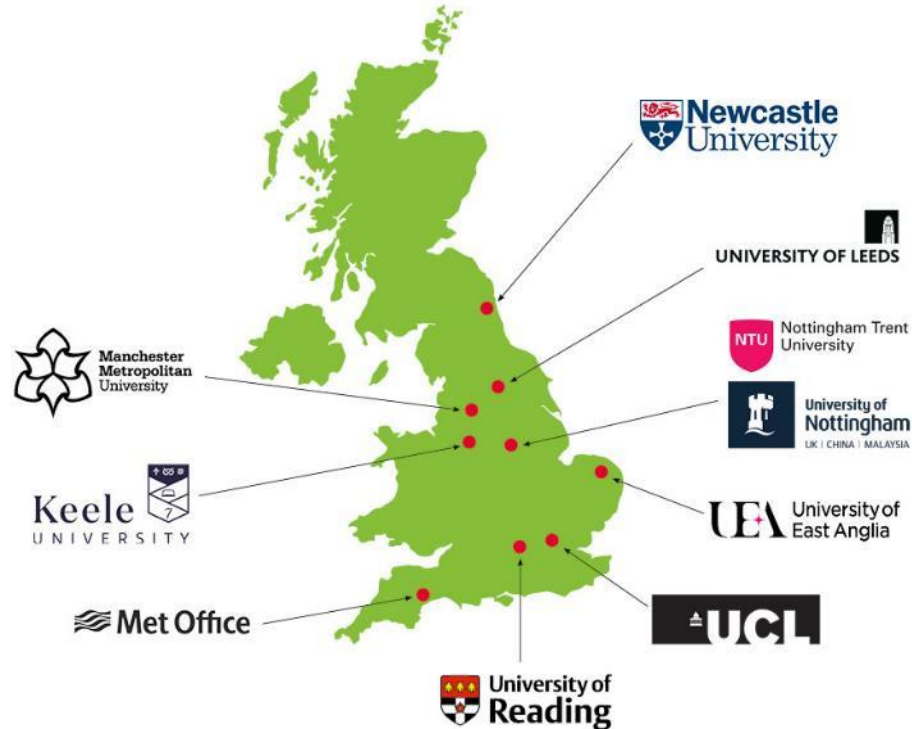
Engagement



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Regional Hubs



'Sister' Projects



South West

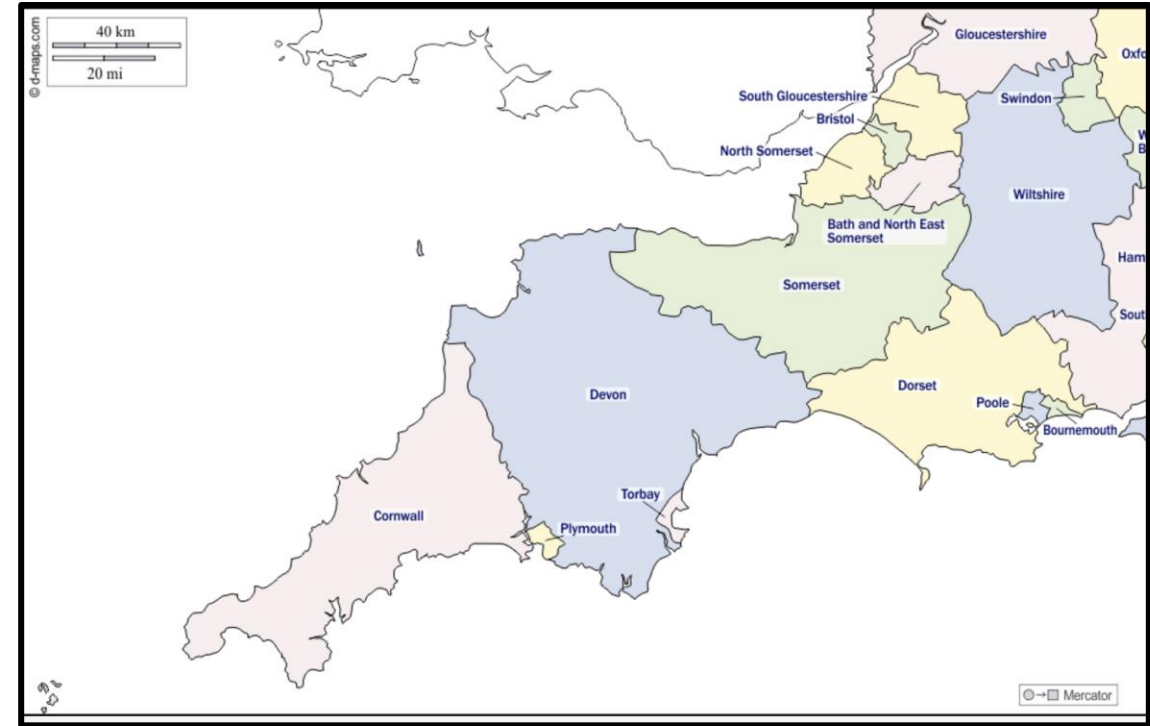
Challenges: rural nature, need for knowledge and training amongst staff

Aim:

Recruit Ambassadors from LAs, MATs, Diocese, Governors, Sustainability Leads and teachers

Objective:

- Build capacity in schools
- Create a Network of peer-to-peer learning
- Develop agency amongst staff to feel confident to take ownership in the creation and implementation of climate action plans with the support of other climate ambassadors and partners.



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What can we offer schools?

Climate Ambassadors can help us fulfil this objective in three ways

1. By supporting schools at a strategic level at the development stage of a climate action plan
2. More broadly, in the implementation of the climate action plan by working with staff and students on specific curriculum themes and projects or whole school campaigns
3. Climate Ambassadors can work in schools as governors, members of a MAT, sustainability lead or teacher gaining access to free training to build capacity and agency.

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The Climate Ambassador programme Sustainability Link Governor

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Sustainability Link Governor

Key Responsibilities

Your role should encompass strategic planning, policy development, and community engagement.

- **Strategic Planning:** Work with school leaders to develop a sustainability strategy with clear goals and timelines. Building partnerships with local businesses, environmental organisations, and government agencies that can provide support for sustainability initiatives.
- **Curriculum Integration:** Ask questions of school leaders about how they integrate sustainability topics into the curriculum. Are there elements of the formal and informal curriculum? Are they encouraging outdoor learning and environmental projects?
- **Energy and Resource Management:** Monitor the school's energy and resource consumption. Are school leaders promoting recycling and reducing single-use plastics?
- **Community Engagement:** Does the strategy set operational targets to involve the school community in sustainability initiatives through volunteering events on the school site, or community engagement events held by the school.
- **Reporting and Accountability:** School leaders should regularly report on sustainability performance to the governance board. As a sustainability link governor your role will involve reporting back to the board on all elements of the CAP

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Governors for Schools

Sustainability Link Governor

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What we will provide for you

Full training for the role including:

- Climate Action Planning training
- Sustainability Leadership Skills
- Carbon Literacy training

Access to a Regional Hub network of Climate Ambassadors with support from a Regional Hub Manager

A bank of resources to support the planning process

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For further information, visit
www.climateambassadors.org.uk

To register and request support from a
Climate Ambassador:
www.stem.org.uk/climate-ambassadors

To sign up as a climate ambassador or for
more info:

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