72. Sustainability and Climate Change Policy

At Cornerstone Preschool, we are committed to fostering care and respect for the environment. Through play, exploration, and daily routines, we help children build an early understanding of sustainability and climate change in a way that is age-appropriate and meaningful.

Our Commitment

We aim to reduce our environmental impact and inspire children to become environmentally responsible through practical, hands-on learning. Sustainability is embedded in our curriculum, environment, staff practice, and family partnerships.

Learning and Play

Children learn about the natural world through activities that build curiosity and care for the planet:

- Gardening, planting, and nature walks
- Sorting recycling and exploring weather
- Eco-themed stories, songs, and sensory play
- Celebrating Earth Day and other green events

Everyday Sustainable Practices

We lead by example and include children in routines that support the environment:

- Turning off taps and lights
- Using recycled materials for craft
- Reducing single-use plastics
- Composting food waste and reusing containers

Food and Resources

We promote healthy, low-waste habits during mealtimes and play:

- Serving appropriate portions and composting scraps
- Using reusable plates and cutlery
- Choosing seasonal and local produce when possible

Outdoor Environment

Our outdoor space supports exploration, learning, and connection with nature:

- Planting vegetables, herbs, and flowers
- Creating wildlife areas like bug hotels and bird feeders
- Using natural materials in play

Staff and Leadership

Staff model sustainable behaviour in daily practice and planning:

- Using reusable items and reducing printing
- Sustainability Lead supports initiatives and training
- Practices are reviewed regularly to improve impact

Working with Families

We involve families and the wider community in our sustainability goals:

- Sharing eco-tips and updates through newsletters
- Encouraging walking, scooting, or cycling to nursery
- Involving families in gardening and recycling projects

Ongoing Reflection

We monitor progress and adapt our practices:

- Using checklists and feedback
- Reviewing energy and resource use
- Updating this policy annually

This policy was agreed at an Under 5s AGM meeting held on...17th...November 2025...

(Date) Signed on behalf of the preschool... (Chair)