

**Canon Burrows C of E**  
**Primary School**



**Working towards**  
**becoming a**  
**Sustainable School**

September 2018 edition

## **Introduction**

Situated in the thin green lung between Ashton-Under-Lyne and Oldham, Canon Burrows Primary School has established a national reputation for its environmental and sustainable development work.

The school's sustainability journey started with the establishment of the 'Taunton Brook Nature Reserve' over thirty years ago. Maintained each week by school pupils this acts as a valuable outdoor classroom and a tranquil escape not only for pupils but the whole community of Waterloo.

For over twenty years the school has worked toward becoming more sustainable. This booklet is intended to show what we do, and how we strive towards becoming a sustainable institution.



## Food and drink

Canon Burrows has its own school kitchen with award winning cooks serving locally sourced food when possible. We grow, and eat, our own vegetables in the school grounds.



We have 'Healthy schools' status and promote a wide variety of physical activity both in school, and

in different after school clubs that run for all ages.

*"Pupils are health conscious and talk animatedly about the dangers of substance abuse."*

**OfSTED**

## Travel and traffic



We promote healthy travel to school and work hand in glove with the local authority to continually improve both road safety and walking to school.



The 'Walk on Wednesday,' or 'WOW,' initiative has now been running for over 10 years with children learning about the benefits of walking, both to themselves and the environment. In 2012/13 we worked with 'Living Streets' to become *champions* of walking to school.

## Buildings and grounds



This is a particular strength of the school. As well as the school nature reserve we also have a variety of school gardens; Butterfly, Infant, Quiet, Sensory and Vegetable. These are maintained by pupils and adults. Volunteers also give up their own time to work with us, often through the 'Business in the community' scheme. Canon Burrows has won many prizes for its school grounds.

The school continually works at making the buildings more sustainable. Solar panels, a green sedum roof and an energy saving 'Power Perfector' have all been added to the structure.



Our links with many different, and diverse, groups help improve local well-being. A strong relationship



with the local business 'Atlas Trading' resulted in the school being nominated for and winning a 'Mersey Basin Award.' 'Business in the community' has supported the school with volunteer groups for over five years. We have links with many different educational establishments including schools, colleges and universities.



## Energy and water



In recent years Canon Burrows has made strenuous efforts to save energy and water. Children use meter readings within their curriculum work and continually strive to reduce energy use. We take part in an annual 'Switch off fortnight' and 'Earth Hour' while class monitors make sure taps and switches are always off when not needed.

We track our energy use which in January 2018 showed:

Heating decrease of nearly 18% (2016-18)

Electricity decrease of nearly 17.5%(2016-18)

CO2 emissions fell from 94 to 75 tonnes between 2016 & 2018 a decrease of nearly 25%



## Purchasing and waste

Purchasing is possibly the most difficult area in which to become more sustainable for a school. We have a 'Green purchasing policy' and our working hard to implement this.

Canon Burrows recycles paper, card and ink cartridges.

In 2010 we won a competition based on not wasting pencils and were honoured to receive a visit from HRH the Duchess of Cornwall who presented our award!



The team of year 6 children who won the 'Wipe out Waste Award' with our royal visitor.

## Inclusion and participation

Canon Burrows children elect councillors to the school's various committees which play a major role in shaping the school's future.

In March 2018 the Eco committee hosted one of the Manchester Mayors Listening Events to gather local ideas of how to make Manchester Europe's leading Green city.





Gaining an LA 'Enhancing Inclusion Mark' has rewarded Canon Burrows for their continued efforts to make sure each and every member of the school community feels that they are valued.



### Global dimension

Like Purchasing, the global dimension is an area that Canon Burrows is working on at present. Taught explicitly through many curriculum areas pupils show a strong empathy with children from other countries and regularly raise funds

with stalls, and through projects such as  
'Operation Christmas Child.'

Pupils learn about global issues such as deforestation and global warming and how these affect the planet.

In 2015 Canon Burrows became an Expert Centre for Global Learning Project. For two years we worked with a cluster of twelve Manchester Primary schools to develop each school's global awareness.



Environmental work and sustainability are woven in to the fabric of school life.

It is taught explicitly in school lessons and assemblies.

A 'vision of care' that is at the heart of the school ethos ensures that it is also implicitly taught. Children know that while they are a

small part of the world their contribution to it can be immense.



Eco Ambassadors; supporting and encouraging others - globally



Teachers and education leaders from Japan came to see our work.



Above, a team of children worked with others to advise Manchester Cathedral on how to save energy.

Children and staff spread the message of the benefits of sustainability by both inviting others to see what we do at the school and by explaining what we do to others. The schools Eco - coordinator is regularly invited to speak at conferences and meetings about the school's work.

### A Green Flag Ambassador School

Awarded our first Green flag in 1998 in, 2011 we gained Eco-Schools Ambassador status in recognition of our work to help and inspire others on their journey toward greater sustainability. Canon Burrows is currently an

Eco Ambassador Legacy school and we gained our 9<sup>th</sup> Eco schools Green flag in Autumn 2017.

We have links and have worked with a wide range of others including; Manchester Environmental Education Network, Ashton Sixth Form College, Christ Church Community Centre, Manchester Diocese and IKEA.

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