P

3.7 Sustainability and Climate Change

Policy statement

Sustainability is an essential and integral part of our daily routines at St Christopher's Playgroup. We wish to instill an understanding and awareness into our children and teach the importance of sustainable living and commit our setting into contributing to a better sustainable future.

Our designated Sustainability and Climate Change Officer is: **Joanne Smith**

Procedures

We carry out the following procedures to ensure we meet government expectations regarding sustainability and climate change.

1. Water

To limit water usage where possible. We are committed to reduce the amount of water we use as a setting indoors and outdoors.

1.1 Turning off taps when water is not being used

1.2 To be mindful of our water usage during playgroup activities indoors and outdoors.

2.Energy

To reduce our environmental impact. Our setting aims to, where possible, to limit and monitor our energy consumption (gas and electricity). We are looking into the following actions to demonstrate our commitment to this goal.

2.1 Turning off lights when not in use.

2.2 To ensure natural daylight is used whenever possible.

2.3 To turn gas heating down or off where possible, using the main thermostat or individual radiators.

2.4 To look at our electric consumption when using small electrical appliances such as laminators, kettles etc.

2.5 To ensure all windows and doors are kept closed in colder temperatures.

3.Food Management

To ensure that we meet sustainability expectations relating to the management of food within mealtimes and activities, the following actions will be taken.

3.1 To dispose of all waste food items into a food caddy which will then be transferred to a composite bin. This is to ensure all children are given the opportunity to be a part of recycling their own food scraps and to have some awareness in the importance of reducing food waste both at home and playgroup.
3.2 For our setting to be aware of the amount of food we use during play and activities.

4.Transport and Travel

To reduce our carbon footprint where possible we will aim to promote sustainable practices relating to transport and travel.
4.1 To help decrease the number of vehicles on our road, we encourage all to travel by a more environmentally friendly means, including walking, cycling and public transport when necessary.
4.2 To encourage car sharing to and from playgroup where possible.

5. Waste Reduction

We are committed to reducing the amount of waste we produce as a setting and to disposing of it as much as possible in an eco-friendly way to avoid unnecessarily sending waste to landfills. To ensure that we can limit the amount of waste generated in our setting we aim to promote proactive sustainability practices in our learners and staff to ensure that, wherever possible, materials are recycled and repurposed.
5.1 To look at using natural materials during playtime and planning activities.
5.2 To reduce paper wastage as much as possible, such as sending emails, texts and making phonecalls instead of sending letters.
5.3 Our setting will use sustainable, reusable cloths for cleaning tables, kitchen work tops and spills. These are to be machine washed regularly.
5.4 For our setting to contribute in reducing the amount of single use items, materials and products used.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	St Christopher's Playgroup	name of setting
Held on	February 2026	(date)
Date to be reviewed	February 2027	(date)
Signed on behalf of the management committee		
Name of signatory	Joanne Smith	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	Staff at St Christophers Playgroup	