



18th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Many of our students have significant concerns about the environment and the serious consequences of climate change, so we have decided as a school to have a stronger focus on environmental education. In collaboration with all the other secondary schools across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, we have drawn up a Green Charter for Schools.



The charter has two over-arching aims:

- As educators, we are committed to teach our young people to be environmentally literate and to develop their knowledge, skills, motivation and confidence to practice and promote sustainability in their community.
- As organisations, we are committed to ensure any decisions we make about our working practice take into account the impact on the environment, with the aim of adopting sustainable practices wherever possible.

To achieve our aims, we have all agreed to do the following:

1. Collectively declare a climate emergency in September 2019.
2. Attend the 2019 Cornwall Schools' Eco-Conference and any subsequent conferences.
3. Gain Eco-School status within two years, then maintain it thereafter.
4. Significantly reduce the use of single-use plastic with the aim of becoming 'plastic free'.
5. Create a garden, pond, orchard, vegetable plot or bee hive on-site.
6. Promote the benefits of eating less meat and aim to have a regular meat-free day.
7. Engage with parents and the local community to promote sustainable action in the home.
8. Engage with another school (nationally or internationally) about action in schools.
9. Support Cornwall Council's aim to become carbon neutral by:
 - reducing energy consumption by at least 10%
 - using some form of renewable energy source on site, where possible
 - buying energy from renewable suppliers, where possible
10. Explore ways to lessen the impact of petrol and diesel vehicles on the environment.

We hope that many of the aims of this green charter will be actively promoted and guided by students. This week, we will be encouraging students to show their support by signing up to be an Eco-School volunteer on Friday 20th September. We will also declare a climate emergency on that day in solidarity with all the other secondary schools in Cornwall. We hope by taking this stance other schools across the country will follow our lead.

If you would like to be involved in helping us achieve our aims, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

W.N. Jenkins

**Mr W N Jenkins
Headteacher**