



Sustainability and Climate Action Policy

17th July 2025

1. Policy Statement

At My Little Explorers, we are committed to embedding sustainability and climate awareness into every aspect of our provision. Our goal is to support young children in developing lifelong respect for the natural world, while operating in a way that reduces our environmental impact. This policy outlines how we meet our responsibilities under the EYFS and contribute to climate action through ethical practice, nature-based learning, and community involvement.

2. Policy Aims

- Promote children's connection to nature and environmental awareness.
- Model sustainable behaviours across all aspects of provision.
- Reduce waste, energy consumption, and carbon emissions.
- Collaborate with families and the community on sustainability goals.
- Ensure our provision aligns with the EYFS and current climate guidance.

3. Legal and EYFS Framework Links

This policy aligns with the following:

- **Statutory Framework for the EYFS (2025):**
Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Encouraging empathy and care for living things.
Understanding the World: Exploring the natural environment and learning about how it changes.
- **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child:**
Article 29 – Education should prepare children to live responsibly and peacefully in a sustainable world.
- **UK Climate Change Act 2008:**
Supporting education settings in contributing to national climate goals.

4. Procedures and Practice

A. Curriculum and Pedagogy

We integrate sustainability into learning by:

- Embedding seasonal, ecological themes into planning and continuous provision.
- Supporting experiential outdoor learning through gardening, nature walks, wildlife observation, and weather exploration.
- Encouraging child-led inquiry into environmental topics (e.g. trees, animals, pollution, weather).
- Celebrating nature-focused events such as Earth Day and Climate Action Week.

B. Daily Operations

We reduce environmental impact through:

- Waste reduction and recycling, including composting food and natural materials.
- Using reusable containers, cloths, and tools wherever possible.
- Conserving water through rainwater collection and careful use.
- Minimising energy consumption by operating outdoors year-round and reducing electronic device use.

C. Children's Involvement

Children are encouraged to:

- Take part in eco-responsible tasks such as litter picking, gardening, and reusing materials.
- Respect living things and care for plants, animals, and natural resources.
- Reflect on what they observe in nature and how they can protect it.

D. Transport and Travel

We encourage families and staff to:

- Walk, cycle, or car-share when travelling to and from the setting.
- Engage in active travel awareness events and local initiatives.

E. Community and Family Engagement

We work collaboratively by:

- Sharing sustainability goals with families through newsletters and meetings.
- Hosting family events with eco-themes such as planting days or nature trails.
- Encouraging sustainable practices at home and in the wider community.

F. Resource Management

We commit to:

- Sourcing ethically and sustainably produced materials.
- Avoiding single-use plastics and opting for natural, durable resources.
- Reusing and repurposing materials for play and learning.

G. Monitoring and Evaluation

- A designated staff member (Eco Lead) oversees the implementation of this policy.
- Annual goals are set and reviewed with input from staff and families.
- Sustainability is reviewed as part of termly planning and staff reflections.

H. Staff Development

- All staff receive training on environmental education and climate action in early years.
- Regular updates and resources are shared through staff meetings and CPD sessions.

5. Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Manager/Lead	Oversee implementation, training, and review of the policy
Eco Lead	Coordinate initiatives, monitor progress, liaise with families and partners
All Staff	Model sustainable behaviours, plan learning accordingly, engage children daily
Parents/Carers	Support sustainability efforts and participate in initiatives where possible

6. Monitoring and Review

- This policy is reviewed annually or as required in response to regulatory changes or feedback.
- Progress towards sustainability goals is evaluated and shared with staff and families.

7. Related Policies

Outdoor Play Policy
Health and Safety Policy
Risk Assessment Procedures
Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Policy
Curriculum and Learning Policy

8. Approval and Sign-off

Approved by:

Name: **Sam Victoria**

Position: **Owner, Founder & Director**

Date: **17th July 2025**