

CLIMATE AMBASSADORS

Welcome to the Climate Ambassadors Programme!

Thank you for expressing your interest in volunteering as a Climate Ambassador. Early years, schools, colleges and other education settings across Yorkshire and Humber are eager for your help in delivering better climate education, mitigating their climate impact, improving their biodiversity, and adapting to the extremes of weather associated with the changing climate. By helping make climate and sustainability education more widely available to all learners, you will make a genuine difference to your community and contribute your knowledge and skills towards tackling real world sustainability and climate challenges.

The Climate Ambassadors programme is funded by the Department for Education as part of its Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, which states that by 2025 all education settings in England are expected to have a designated Sustainability Lead and a Climate Action Plan.

What is a Climate Ambassador?

Your role as a Climate Ambassador is to provide free support for education settings to develop and deliver impactful Climate Action Plans, wherever they are on their sustainability journey.

You don't need to be an expert, anyone who is passionate and motivated to offer support around sustainability and climate education can be a Climate Ambassador. You can focus your time working on things that align with your passion and experience - and we will provide you with the training and development to help you make the most of your skills.

We ask that **Climate Ambassadors volunteer a minimum of one day a year**, spread over at least three activities throughout the academic year. You might support a single school or multiple settings - and this could be in person or online.

There will be opportunities for you to work with the staff, learners and wider community leaders including governors within your paired education setting and we hope you will develop a long-term and meaningful connection with the community so that you can see the impact of your work with them over time.

Why volunteer as a Climate Ambassador?

As a Climate Ambassador, you will develop sustainability, systems change and climate leadership skills - for yourself and those you work with inspiring future generations with positive solutions to environmental challenges. There is a wide range of support to help you in your role including:

- Core Climate Ambassador Training with further upskilling modules and CPD opportunities.
- Climate Ambassador Resources including CAP guidance, suggested action lists and signposting resources.
- Further support and advice through your Regional Hub.

What is a Climate Action Plan?

A Climate Action Plan (CAP) mobilises, empowers and supports an education setting community to act on climate change. CAPs cover four themes, as set out by the Department for Education:



Decarbonisation: Aim to reduce emissions and support the transition to net zero.



Adaptation & Resilience: Aim to adapt your systems and buildings to prepare for the effects of climate change.



Nature and Biodiversity: Aim to enhance biodiversity, improve air quality and increase access and connection to nature.



Climate Education and Green Skills: Embed sustainability across the curriculum to prepare young people and build skills for their future.

A CAP doesn't have to follow a prescribed template and there are a range of tools that can help shape, develop and implement action. These resources will be signposted during your Climate Ambassador training.

Working with education settings

The Climate Ambassador programme offers support to all education settings including early years, primary and secondary schools, further education (FE) and special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision settings.

Whether this is the first time you have worked with educational settings or you already work within the education sector, support and guidance on understanding the setting's context and needs will be given as part of your Climate Ambassador training.

Becoming a Climate Ambassador

To become a Climate Ambassador, you will **register as a STEM Ambassador** on the STEM Learning platform (selecting the Climate Ambassador scheme when prompted). The sign-up process will take you through a safeguarding induction and a free DBS check before going on to complete the core Climate Ambassador training delivered by our partner Change Agents.

Once set up on the STEM Learning platform, you will be able to access the Climate Ambassador community network as well as further CPD opportunities (including a Sustainability Leadership programme & Carbon Literacy training). Once you've completed the steps above, you are ready to connect with and begin supporting education settings.

The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Hub is there to help, please get in touch at climateambassadors_yh@leeds.ac.uk.