**01.18b Climate Action and Sustainability Policy**

It is a requirement form The Department for Education that ‘all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan' by 2025 in line with their Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.

Our Sustainability Lead is Jennie Mallin.

Our sustainability lead is responsible for guiding the preschool to adopt eco- friendly practices, to integrate sustainability into the curriculum, to develop a climate action plan to foster environmental awareness in children, staff and our parents.

The Sustainability Leads role involves connecting children with Nature, reducing the setting’s environmental footprint through actions like waste reduction and energy conservation. By collaborating with the wider community on sustainability initiatives. This role is part of a national strategy to embed sustainability education and climate action into all educational settings.

Key responsibilities:

To define sustainability using the 3 Ps. (People, Planet, Profit)

To develop and implement a Climate Action Plan. Review our existing practices and identify areas for improvement. Having achievable goals.

To integrate sustainability into our Curriculum - Activities incorporating nature and how to protect our environment. Planting and growing our own vegetables. Looking at mini beasts and understanding their importance in the circle of life. Having insects as preschool ‘pets’ Our Preschool Tortoise, Torty, helps children understand how to care for living creatures and animals. Children build empathy and knowledge, learning what they need to survive. Recycling and repurposing resources.

To offer every opportunity for children to connect with nature- Free flow outdoor play. Nature walks, Bug hunts around field, Wyndhams Pond trip, making a Bug hotel

To engage the families and wider community- Sending home seeds and bulbs to plant, encouraging parent participation to nurture. Encouraging families to get outside and enjoy nature. Litter picking and planting wild flowers. Signposting parents. Taking part in Community events.

To educate and empower- Adults at preschool to demonstrate sustainability behaviours and practices. Recycling activities. Positive attitudes. Role modelling. Sharing knowledge.

Action Plan to look into the following 4 points

1. **Decarbonisation and reducing emissions** - Using less energy and reducing reliance on fossil fuels

2. **Adaptation and Resilience** – Preparing for climate change. Adapting your setting so it stays safe, cool and prepared for extreme weather.

3. **Improving the Environment and Biodiversity-** Helping nature thrive . Making your setting more nature-friendly and improving outdoor spaces

4. **Climate Education and Green Careers**- Helping children and adults understand environmental issues and think about future opportunities.

Action plan to be reviewed at staff meetings to check YCPS is on track with the plan.