

Dumfries and Galloway Council

Climate Champions Initiative

In June 2019, Dumfries and Galloway Council agreed their Climate Emergency Declaration and a 12-point plan of commitments and determined that the implementation of the plan would be overseen by a Climate Emergency Cross Party Working Group.

Following the identification of a lack of teacher confidence in delivering climate education within schools and settings across the authority, a bespoke training package has been developed with [Keep Scotland Beautiful](#) through their climate emergency training program.

Teachers from across the authority were invited to sign up to become climate and carbon literate trained by undertaking a series of twilight training sessions. This knowledge would then allow them to cascade this learning within their schools/partnerships/clusters. To date, two rounds of training have supported 53 teaching staff across the 16 clusters within the authority.



Whilst supporting their schools, the Climate Champions are supported as a team through the development of a communication group on Glow, face to face training days supported by partner organisations from the Learning for Sustainability Partnership group, and participation in the annual authority wide Learning for Sustainability Conference held each spring.

Learning for Sustainability, and the three main themes Global Citizenship, Outdoor Learning, and Sustainable Development, are experiencing growing presence and momentum in all schools and ELC settings across the authority. This is clearly evident in, amongst other things, individual School Improvement Plans.

The Council Plan 2023–2028 sets out the vision and strategic outcomes that the Council wants to achieve over the next five years. It will guide activity across the Council and focus on how we will deliver better outcomes for the citizens and communities in Dumfries and Galloway.

The Council Plan centres on four key principles, the first to safeguard the future which provides a focus to: address the climate emergency; urgently respond to climate change and transition to a carbon neutral region; and protect and enhance our region’s natural capital and habitats through conservation and sustainable development. For more information, contact the Education and Learning Directorate within the authority on www.dumgal.gov.uk.

