

School Council Annual Impact Report

Introduction

Throughout the 2025-2026 academic year, the Shiremoor Voice Council has played a significant role in supporting the school's Sustainability and Climate Action Plan. Council representatives have demonstrated leadership, responsibility and commitment to improving environmental awareness across the school community. Through a range of projects and campaigns, pupils have actively contributed towards achieving the school's sustainability objectives, while developing valuable skills in communication, teamwork and citizenship.

Key Achievements

I. Biodiversity and Environmental Improvement

One of the council's major priorities was the development of a wildflower area within the school grounds.

Actions completed:

- Conducted a survey of the designated grassed area.
- Developed a restoration and planting plan.
- Cleared and renovated the site.
- Added soil and planted wildflower seeds.
- Established a maintenance plan for ongoing care.

Impact:

- Increased opportunities to improve biodiversity on the school site.
- Enhanced pupil understanding of local habitats and environmental stewardship.
- Created a sustainable project that will continue to develop in future years.



2. Waste, Water and Resource Conservation

The School Council led a whole-school campaign focused on reducing water waste and encouraging responsible use of resources.

Actions completed:

- Organised a school-wide poster competition.
- Designed and displayed water-saving posters around school.
- Delivered awareness messages through assemblies.
- Encouraged pupils and staff to adopt water-saving behaviours.

Impact:

- Raised awareness of environmental responsibility across all year groups.
- Increased pupil engagement with sustainability issues.
- Supported the school's wider environmental objectives through behaviour change initiatives.

3. Climate Education and Awareness

The School Council took a leading role in promoting sustainability education during Science Day.

Actions completed:

- Planned and delivered an additional sustainability-focused Science Day activity.
- Supported learning linked to climate change and environmental responsibility.
- Year 6 council members confidently presented sustainability strategies to pupils, staff and visitors.

Impact:

- Increased pupil knowledge and understanding of climate change issues.
- Developed leadership and presentation skills among council representatives.
- Demonstrated pupil voice and ownership of sustainability initiatives.



4. Sustainable Travel Promotion

To encourage healthier and more environmentally friendly travel habits, the School Council launched a campaign promoting active travel.

Actions completed:

- Planned and delivered an assembly encouraging cycling and scooting to school.
- Promoted sustainable travel options for the forthcoming academic year.

Impact:

- Raised awareness of sustainable transport choices.
- Supported the school's commitment to reducing environmental impact.
- Encouraged healthy lifestyles alongside environmental benefits.

Overall Impact of the School Council

The School Council has made substantial progress towards the aims of the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan. Pupils have moved beyond consultation and have actively led projects that have delivered visible improvements to the school environment and strengthened awareness of sustainability issues across the school community.

Particular strengths this year include:

- Strong pupil leadership and ownership of projects.

- Successful engagement of the wider school community.
- Practical environmental improvements with long-term benefits.
- Effective promotion of climate awareness and sustainable behaviours.

Next Steps for 2026-2027

The School Council recommends the following priorities for the coming academic year:

- Monitor and maintain the wildflower garden and evaluate its biodiversity impact.
- Expand recycling and waste reduction initiatives across the school.
- Continue water conservation campaigns and measure their effectiveness.
- Develop additional pupil-led sustainability projects.
- Increase participation in active travel initiatives.
- Strengthen links with local environmental organisations and community groups.

Conclusion

The Shiremoor Voice Council has made excellent progress during the 2025-2026 academic year and has been instrumental in supporting the school's sustainability objectives. Through leadership, teamwork and commitment, council members have positively influenced both the school environment and the attitudes of their peers. Their work has contributed meaningfully to creating a more sustainable, environmentally aware school community and provides a strong foundation for further development in 2026-2027.