

The Green Education Declaration

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing the world today. The education sector has a key role to play in addressing this challenge. Education is critical to achieving the transition to a low carbon economy and society. Teaching and learning are crucial to inspire and educate the next generation of decision makers, business leaders and citizens, and equip them with the skills and knowledge to deal with the challenges of climate change. Research and innovation helps us to understand the many facets of climate change and will be central to developing ideas and technologies to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate.

As the representatives of educational institutions and associated organisations in the UK we:

- *Welcome* the introduction of a Climate Change Bill and acknowledge the benefits of creating a clear legal framework to shape our collective responsibilities to the threat of climate change.
- *Recognise* the need to ensure that global average temperatures do not rise more than 2°C in order to avoid the most severe effects of climate change.
- *Urge* the Government to ensure that the Climate Change Bill is based on the most up-to-date science of climate change, which clearly indicates that the UK needs to cut carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2050.
- *Call* for the Climate Change Bill to create a duty on both the public and private sectors, including the education sector, to introduce carbon reduction strategies that will enable a smooth and urgent transition to a low carbon economy.

As representatives of stakeholders within the education sector we commit to take decisive and strategic action to reduce year-on-year the carbon emissions of our own institutions and organisations.

Signed:

Name:

Position:

Institution/organisation:

Email address:

Please return by post to People & Planet, 51 Union Street, Oxford, OX4 3AX, by fax to 01865 791927, or send a scanned copy to gogreenweek@peopleandplanet.org

Signatories to the Green Education Declaration can be viewed online from 18 February 2008:
peopleandplanet.org/greeneducationdeclaration

