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9th October 2025

Dear children and families,

Re: Solar Panels

We have exciting news...

We have been assessed as suitable to have solar panels attached to our school roof. The panels and the installation will be paid for by a Government grant so there is no charge to the school.

The work will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The work will be almost entirely external so there will be no disruption to lessons or playtimes. Scaffold access will be placed on the path by the school car park. **You will still be able to access the playground through the side gate by the car park and the rear gate as normal.**

We will be sharing with all the children the importance of renewable energy and providing an opportunity for our School Council to interview the solar panel managers to learn directly from experts and share their findings with us all.

We are already a very energy efficient school so it is anticipated that we will not need the full amount of electricity generated by the solar panels so we will be able to sell our surplus energy to Grid. Any profits will be used to enhance learning resources for our school.

On the reverse of this letter you will see what we currently do to reduce our carbon footprint and our plans for this year.

Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions,

Kind regards,

*S Robinson.*

Mrs S Robinson  
Headteacher



# Four Oaks Climate Leaders

## What our school has in place:

### Energy efficient lighting: Decarbonisation

Our school has LED light and motion sensitive lights fitted throughout the building.

This has reduced carbon emissions in our buildings by changing the light bulbs to LED. All lights are motion and light sensitive so respond individually to the lighting needs of each room with an override 'off' option.

### Energy efficient heating: Decarbonisation

We had Air Source pumps fitted as part of the building design and build in 2012. This reduces our energy consumption for heating the building.

### Food waste recycling: Reduce food waste that goes into landfill

We provide separate bins in the dining room at lunchtime to separate food waste and non-food waste such as food wrappers. Food waste is recycled separately.

We have educated the pupils and staff in using the bins correctly and monitoring shows that this has been successful.

The Site Manager requests the waste disposal service to keep bags separate so they can be disposed of in the most eco-friendly manner.

### **Our Energy rating:**

Our Energy Consumption certificates, currently Grade C, shows we are an energy efficient school. Our school is a modern well insulated building built in 2012. It is efficient to heat and maintain.

### Climate Action plan 2025-26

Goal	Action	Steps	Completion date	Resources and costs
Decarbonisation	To produce/ reduce energy consumption by installing solar panels on the roof to increase our use of renewable energy and reduce energy bills.	Engage with Barker Associates to complete feasibility study of adding solar panels to the school roof.  Solar panels to be fitted to the school roof.  Outcome of installing solar panels to be monitored over a period of 12 months.	September / October 2025  Completed  18 October 2025  October 2026	Free solar panels grant from Government which is accessed by the company on our behalf.  Cost of a data point and staff overtime to open the site at weekends.  Post 1-year introductory period there will be a charge of £700 p.a. maintenance.
Biodiversity	Increase pupils' knowledge of biodiversity by starting a gardening club.	Simple gardening club ideas / RHS Campaign for School Gardening	Summer term 2026	Costs will include plants chosen by the children to use in the allotment beds up to £500