



20<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Richard Lander School,

In collaboration with all the other secondary schools across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly we have drawn up a Green Charter for Schools.



The charter has two over-arching aims:

**As educators, we are committed to teach our young people to be environmentally literate and to develop their knowledge, skills, motivation and confidence to practice and promote sustainability in their community.**

**As organisations, we are committed to ensure any decisions we make about our working practice take into account the impact on the environment, with the aim of adopting sustainable practices wherever possible.**

To achieve our aims, we have all agreed to do the following:

1. **Collectively declare a climate emergency in September 2019.**
2. **Attend the 2019 Cornwall Schools' Eco-Conference and any subsequent conferences.**
3. **Gain Eco-School status within two years, then maintain it thereafter.**
4. **Significantly reduce the use of single-use plastic with the aim of becoming 'plastic free'.**
5. **Create a garden, pond, orchard, vegetable plot, bee hive and/or farm on site.**
6. **Promote the benefits of eating less meat and aim to have a regular meat-free day.**
7. **Engage with parents & the local community to promote sustainable action in the home.**
8. **Engage with another school (nationally or internationally) about action in schools.**
9. **Support Cornwall Council's aim to become carbon neutral by:**
  - reducing energy consumption by at least 10%
  - using some form of renewable energy source on site, where possible
  - buying energy from renewable suppliers, where possible
10. **Explore ways to lessen the impact of petrol and diesel vehicles on the environment.**

We hope that much of this will be driven by students through our Environment Action Group and Eco-School Group. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, we will declare a climate emergency collectively with all other secondary schools in Cornwall. We hope by taking this stance other schools across the country will follow our lead.

Yours sincerely,

Staff and Governors at Richard Lander School

