**Please use this simple template to make your action plan, return a completed copy to CAFOD and we will send you your *live*simply award registration certificate.**

To apply for the award, your community should plan one main action – something which involves either a significant change or a lot of people - and at least two smaller actions under each of the three headings.

You can include activities which are already taking place and some that are new, or that aim to reach new people. There are more ideas and inspiration on cafod.org.uk/livesimply.

**Use these questions to help you plan your activities:**

* *Why* are you taking this action? Who will benefit and what difference will it make?
* *Who* will be involved in making it happen? Think beyond your core group.
* *How* will you show that you’ve succeeded? Electricity bills, photos, newspaper cuttings and liturgy sheets are some of the ways you can show what you have been doing.
* *When* will you do it by? Be realistic.
* *What* kind of action is it? Is this action reflection and worship; practical action or something which reaches out to involve others beyond the community? It could be all three, but make sure you have all three kinds of action reflected somewhere in your plan.

**Actions to live simply**

Main action:

Whole-school unit based on Laudato Si and COP26 (1st to 19th November 2021), designed to engage the school community (pupils, staff, parents and parishioners) in our duty as Stewards of Creation, to tackle climate change, hold world leaders to account, and make our own changes.

Other activities:

1. Throughout the period of COP26, all collective worships to be held outside. Pupils to complete prayer boats as part of YCCN Christian Aid prayer commitment.
2. Head to share a ‘Live Simply’ tip as part of weekly newsletter.

**Actions to live sustainably with creation**

Main action:

To encourage every member of our school community (pupils, parents, staff and parish) to make a climate pledge. As a culmination of our ‘Laudato Si and COP26’ Unit, each member of the school community will be asked to make a public pledge. This will either take the form of #OneStepGreener – something they will positively do to support our planet, or be based around the idea of tithing, making a commitment to reduce their climate harm by 10% - e.g. to take 10% lass car journeys, or print 10% less.

Other activities:

1. To plant 240 trees as part of our commitment to sustainability and in our role as stewards of creation. We have already planted around 140 trees on our school site from the Woodland Trust. We have just signed up to plant a further 240 (approximately one per pupil) along our fence with the very busy and polluting A405 dual carriageway.
2. As a school we have a commitment to sustainability. All boards are backed with hessian, rather than school backing paper – this lasts multiple years. We do not laminate paper for displays as this cannot be recycled and goes to landfill. Rather than buy new furniture, we upcycle or build furniture (including our whole library and Chapel) from recycled pallets and reclaimed wood). We grow produce in our school garden and have a school farm, where we regularly rescue former battery hens, who are about to be slaughtered, and rehome them. The children run the farm and we use the eggs in cooking at school. We have just taken over the garden in our local parish (Our Lady and St Michael’s Church), where the children have weeded ad planted bulbs. We have a group of pupils who are responsible for gardening every week after Mass.

**Actions to live in solidarity with the poor**

Main action:

We have a long-standing commitment to supporting the poor and marginalised in our local area - Watford Food Bank (collecting and pupils actively volunteering), One Vision (a cross-faith community group), New Hope (a charity for the Watford homeless community) and, most recently, newly placed Afghan refugees (pupils sent ‘welcome’ cards and collected much-needed toiletries). Activities to support these groups take place every term.

These projects support those within our local Catholic and non-Catholic communities.

Other activities:

1. We have a new commitment to support Afghan refugees in Watford. Through the local project leader (a parent at the school), we are aware of their needs and will continue to collect and fundraise for them.
2. Whole school action to stand in solidarity with the poorest globally through action around COP26. Pupils will be writing to our MP, local and national businesses who have not signed up to Race for Zero, running social media campaigns (Twitter , Facebook etc.), writing to our Trust, the Diocese and encouraging friends and family to act to take decisive action around climate change. This will be based around our duty to the poorest in society and the world – that those least responsible for climate change are those who will suffer first and the most.

Evidence of all activities can be found on our website and school Twitter accounts.

<https://www.stcatherinescatholicprimaryschool.co.uk/the-common-good/>

<https://www.stcatherinescatholicprimaryschool.co.uk/social-justice/>

Name and diocese of parish / community: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­Diocese of Westminster, Garston, Our Lady & St Michael’s Church

I am applying on behalf of a:

□ Parish

X School

□ Other type of organisation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parish priest / headteacher: Nicola Kane Date:\_31st October 2021

Contact name: Nicola Kane

Contact address: St Catherine of Siena School, Horseshoe Lane, Garston, WD25 7HP.

Postcode: WD25 7HP

Contact email address: head@st-catherine.herts.sch.uk

X Yes, I would like to join an email list for *live*simply award contacts to share resources, questions and ideas.

X Yes, I’d like to receive campaigns news, action and updates from CAFOD by email.