

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Climate Ed

#TCCXB8XQ78 submitted on 18 March 2025

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

To help us expand our operations so we can offer carbon literacy and climate action education to every primary aged child in the UK. Our expansion plan is to grow to two new UK regions per year from 2024-2028. Funds would support a new regional coordinator in our new region to build the network of local volunteers and schools and deliver to 60 cohorts/1,800 children in their first year.

Tell us more about your project and the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and how it will bring about significant change

Project Overview & Objectives

Climate Ed delivers a carbon literacy and climate action programme for Year 5 & 6 (9-11 year olds) in UK primary schools. Through five one-hour workshops combining drama, knowledge sharing, conversation, and games, our programme equips children with the knowledge and practical skills to take meaningful climate action. Each child develops their own plan to reduce carbon emissions in their family or community, and we return 3-6 months later to review progress and offer support.

Our programme is unique in being delivered by trained volunteers from relevant fields and offered free to schools. It aligns with the citizenship aspect of the curriculum and supports schools in meeting the Department for Education's requirement to have a Climate Action Plan by Autumn 2025. Given that climate change is not currently included in the UK primary curriculum, our programme fills a critical gap in children's education.

The Need for Action

We are in a climate emergency. Carbon emissions must fall by 50% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050 to limit global heating to 1.5°C (IPCC, 2022). However, current policies put us on track for a rise of at least 2.7°C this century. Research shows that 32% of the UK's necessary carbon reductions will rely on behaviour change (House of Lords, 2022). Yet, schools lack the resources to educate children on climate action effectively with 69% of teachers believe climate change should be taught more in schools, but 75% feel they haven't received adequate training (Oxfam & YouGov). A 2025 YouGov survey found 78% of primary school children were worried about climate change, with 27% very worried. A 2024 UCL report showed that 87% of school children worry about their future due to climate change, with many feeling sadness, anxiety, guilt, or shame. Our programme incorporates guidance from The Royal College of Psychiatrists for averting eco-anxiety, ensuring children feel empowered, hopeful, and resilient by taking action.

Impact & Evidence of Success

Our programme has a proven track record of inspiring children and their families to take real action. Data from the 2023/24 academic year shows:

- 94% of children said the programme improved their knowledge of climate change.
- 85% said it inspired them to take action.
- 89% felt more positive about their role in tackling climate change.

Follow-up visits reveal:

- 57% of students reducing travel emissions with their families, such as fewer car journeys.
- 38% of families eating less meat.
- 91% adopting other climate-friendly changes, like re-use schemes or composting.

Feedback from schools underscores its effectiveness:

“Invaluable and should be taught in every primary school.” – St Paul’s Primary, Whitechapel

“I would recommend that all children have the opportunity to take part in this carefully constructed and relevant programme.” – Furzedown Primary, Wandsworth

“Ofsted were intrigued and impressed with the opportunities it gave children to deepen their understanding of the world.” – St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Scaling for Greater Impact

Climate Ed’s model is scalable and cost-effective due to our small operating structure and use of volunteers. In 2024, we expanded from London to the West Midlands and South East. This year, we are opening in the North West and fundraising for Yorkshire and the Humber as part of our 2030 goal to reach all UK children.

Why Support Us?

With your support, we can bring this impactful programme to a new region, ensuring thousands more children gain the knowledge and confidence to take climate action. Climate education creates a “contagious dynamic,” influencing families and communities (Otto et al., 2020). By empowering the next generation, we can drive meaningful behavioural change towards a sustainable future.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

D - Peace work connected with climate breakdown

1.3d Peace work connected with climate breakdown

Climate education is a crucial form of peace work—it equips young people with the knowledge and tools to act, promoting a just and sustainable future. Because climate change impacts vulnerable and marginalised communities more acutely, and that these communities are often excluded from the climate conversation, we deliver a high proportion of work in areas of multiple deprivation.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

United Kingdom (GB)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

Once established, experience shows funding is easier to source, in particular from local grant makers and businesses who contribute volunteers and funds. We aim to continue our regions in perpetuity so we can offer our programme for years to come. Once volunteers are trained and our network built, our cost per pupil is forecast to decrease from £13.40 in 22/23 to £7.50 over the next two years because of economies of scale.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

We will measure the success of our programme using :

- Post-Programme Surveys: Measuring pupil knowledge, confidence, and intention to act.
- Qualitative feedback: Insights from schools and volunteers on programme effectiveness and

improvements.

- Follow-Up Evaluations: Assessing longer-term behaviour changes and sustainability actions

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Salary for part time Volunteer Coordinator (12 months). £29.318k FTE 0.6 = 17,590.8 per annum + 8% pension and national insurance	£18,998	Their role is a direct project cost as 100% of their time is spent building the network of volunteers and schools, providing training and supporting delivery.
Publicity and promotion (adverts to schools and volunteers and promotional visits)	£900	
Volunteer expenses, including DBS checks and travel	£950	
	£0	
TOTALS	£20,848	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Grant from trusts and foundation	£20,848	£15,000	We have raised 15000 for a new region from Lloyds Register (£5000), AKO Foundation (£5000), private donor (£5000)
	£0	£0	
TOTALS	£20,848	£15,000	

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£5,000

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£24

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Climate Ed
21488541
16-58-10

3.1 Your name

Abi Jermain

3.2 Your contact telephone number

07827353794

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Development and Fundraising Manager

3.4 Your email address

abi@climateed.net

3.5 Organisation name

Climate Ed

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK Charity

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

Mission: To provide high quality carbon literacy education to children across the UK, and enable them, their families and communities to reduce their carbon emissions.

Programme Goals:

- Increase carbon literacy among children.
- Reduce climate anxiety among children.
- Inspire children and their families to take action to reduce their emissions.
- Improve dialogue and collaboration between adults and children about climate change.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

96 Besley St, London, UK

3.9 UK telephone number

07827353794

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

1188858

3.11 Year established

2020

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<http://www.climateed.net>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

<https://www.facebook.com/teachclimate/>

<https://twitter.com/ClimateEdUK>

<https://www.instagram.com/ClimateEdUK/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/climateeduk>

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

Other

4.1b Other

Charity Excellence