

**New world**

**New skills**

# Introduction to Sustainability

PwC's Primary School Toolkit



# Today's objectives

1. Explore and understand what is meant by sustainability
2. Understand the role that carbon plays in warming the planet
3. Consider how students can reduce their own carbon emissions
4. Explore the concepts of 'reduce, reuse and recycle'
5. Consider the actions that students can take to go circular



# Introduction to Sustainability

01





# What is Sustainability?

# What is sustainability?

## **Sustainable:**

"Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."





# What are our current needs?



**Healthcare**

**Housing**



**Travel**

**Breathable air**

**Food**



**Electricity**



**Green spaces**



**Jobs**

**Leisure**



**Water**



**Technology**



**Transport**

# What do we need to do to look after our needs?

## What do we need?

Clean water to drink and wash with



## What do we need to do?

Remove plastic and chemicals from our water to stop water pollution





# Introduction to Carbon

02



# Where does energy come from?



When we use electricity to power things such as lights and computers, this requires **energy**.



We can get energy in different ways, most of our energy comes from burning fuels that are known as **fossil fuels**, an example of a fossil fuel is coal.



When we burn fossil fuels it releases a gas called **carbon**. Too much carbon in the atmosphere causes the planet to get hotter.



When the planet gets hotter, this causes extreme weather such as droughts, floods and storms. It also means that many animals habitats are destroyed.



# What does one tonne of carbon look like?



# Question



How many tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are put into the atmosphere every year by human activity?



Answer

37 billion



# What can help?



We need to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy. Renewable energy sources don't release fossil fuels to the atmosphere and is better for the planet.



Renewable energy will never run out, such as wind through using wind turbines, solar through using solar panels and geothermal using the heat from the earth.



Trees remove carbon from the atmosphere, so the more trees there are the more carbon can be removed and the slower the planet will warm up.

# Question



How many tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> does the average person in the UK emit every year?



Answer

7.2 tonnes





# Question



What actions could we take as individuals to reduce the amount of carbon we produce?



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# What can we do?



Eating locally  
sourced food



Walking or  
cycling instead  
of driving



Saving water



Using renewable  
energy



Turning off the  
lights when not  
using them



Buying second  
hand



Recycling waste



Using less  
plastic



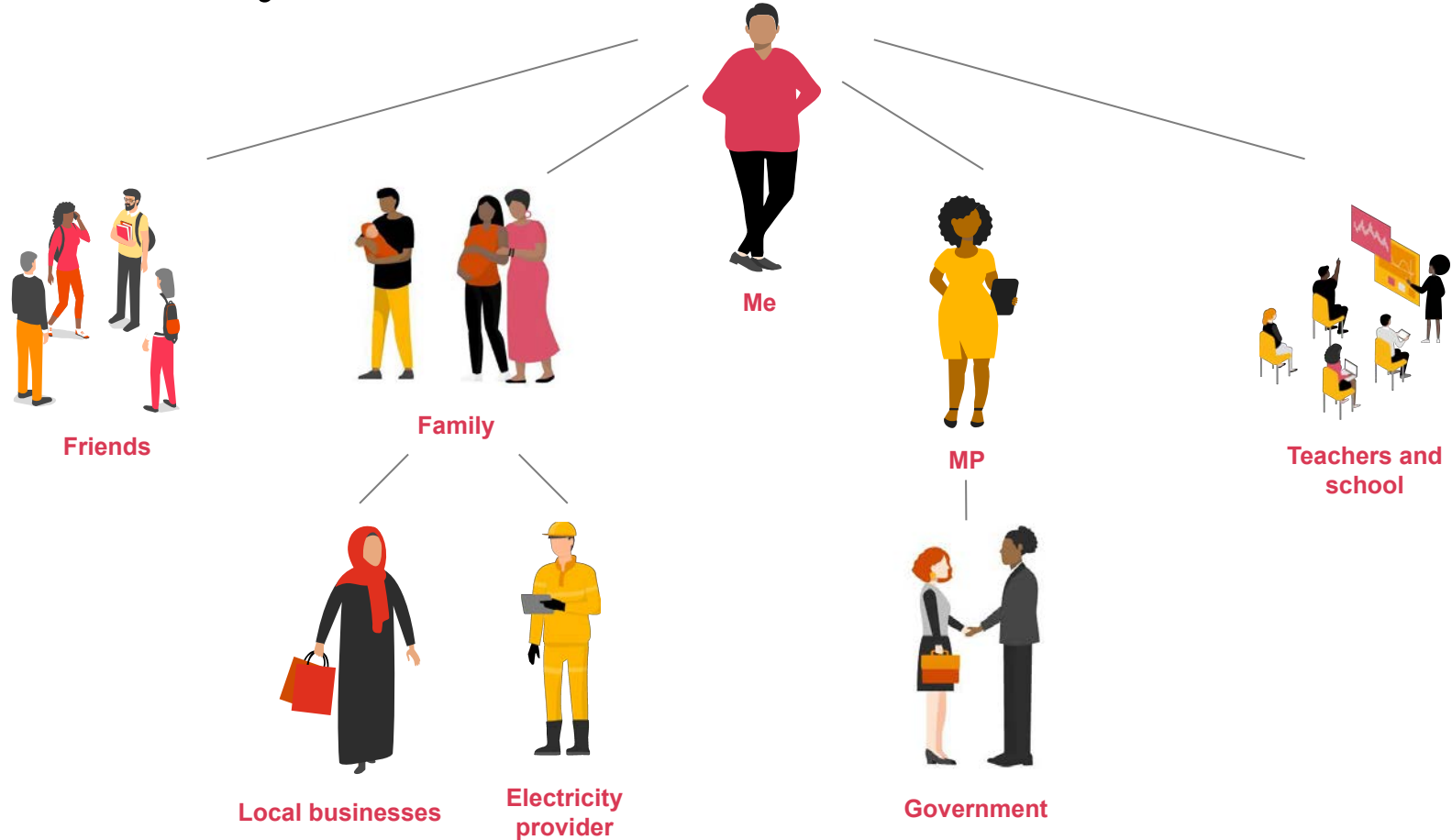
Flying less



Campaigning for  
change

# Who can you influence?

# Who can you influence?





What three things will you do to reduce the amount of carbon you produce?

# Going Circular

03





Why does throwing rubbish away  
harm the planet?



**Damaging natural environments**



**Not enough space to hold the rubbish**



**Producing waste uses natural resources**



**Harming wildlife**

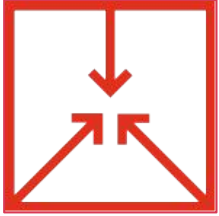


**Chemicals leak into water systems**



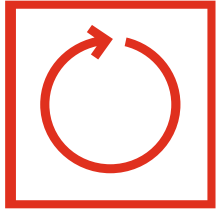


How can we solve these problems?



**Reduce-** use less

Example: using fewer  
single use plastics



**Reuse-** use it again

Example: having a  
reusable water bottle



**Recycle-** turn waste into  
something new

Example: melting old  
cans down to make  
new ones



# Activity

Complete the sorting activity on the sheets on your tables.

For each waste type you need to decide whether you should 'reduce, reuse or recycle' it.

Remember some waste types might fit into more than one category.





What one thing are you going to  
either reduce, reuse or recycle going  
forward?

# Wrap up and Reflection

## Think about:

- What does “sustainability” mean?
- How can you reduce your own carbon emissions?
- What do we mean by “reduce, reuse, recycle”?



# Thank you

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