



Talk to your MP!

Your local MP can be a Zero Hero too, by calling on the government to commit the UK to a net zero target by 2045.

Everybody has the right to contact their local MP. There are lots of ways of doing this and they really like hearing from schools! You could:

- > Write a letter
- > Send an email
- > Ring their office
- > Contact them on social media



WHAT MORE CAN THE UK DO TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE IN YOUR TIME AT PARLIAMENT ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?

MPs normally work at Parliament from Monday to Thursday, and work in their local area (constituency) on Fridays and at the weekends. Visit theyworkforyou.com to find out who your MP is, and invite them to visit your school or group on a Friday when they are likely to be in your area.

If your MP comes to meet your class or group, remember to take a photograph of you showing them your Zero Hero display.

For more information about talking to your MP, suggested questions to ask, and a template letter to send them, go to cafod.org.uk/schools



"The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all."

Pope Francis

CLIMATE EMERGENCY: Be a Zero Hero



Campaign guide for schools

The world we live in is changing because of climate change. We need to speak up now to look after our world.

Join the campaign to look after our world by becoming a Zero Hero and asking your local MP to do the same.



What is climate change?

Climate change is about large, long-term changes to the earth's climate. In the past, it has happened naturally. But recent warming of the climate is being driven by human activities like burning fossil fuels. These release greenhouse gases which trap energy from the sun and warm the earth.

We know that to avoid the worst effects of climate change, we must limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Going above 1.5°C warming could multiply hunger, migration and conflict.

We know that people's lives in some of the world's poorest communities are already being devastated as a result of extreme weather events and unpredictable seasons.

What is Net Zero?

We are calling on the UK to reach net zero emissions by 2045 at the latest. This means only putting the same amount of emissions into the atmosphere as we take out. For example, we can reduce how many fossil fuels we burn, and protect and plant more trees, which take in carbon dioxide as they grow.

The UK reaching net zero will mean that we no longer contribute to climate change.



For more information on net zero go to cafod.org.uk/schools and check out our explainer animation

ZERO HEROES IN PERU

Rebeca, Milagros and Abigail are members of a school's eco-brigade. They meet once a week and learn about climate change and how to protect the Lomas, a mountainous area known as the 'green lung' of Lima. They have started by planting trees in the Lomas, as well as clearing an area at school to create a garden.

"It's important to protect the Lomas because they give us our oxygen, they help our wellbeing and help our planet." *Abigail*



Why are we campaigning now?

Scientists have told us what we need to do. We must stop adding to climate change. And we need to act fast. Unless we make dramatic changes, there will be no way to reverse the damage caused by climate change.

We can also do something about climate change in our own lives. We can make small changes every day, such as reducing our energy use, recycling more and cutting out car journeys where possible.



"Climate change is a global problem."

Pope Francis

Take action together

1. Stand in a zero. Take a photo.
2. Send the photo to your local MP and invite them in to your school.
3. Complete the return form on our website to let us know you have taken part. Share your photos and tag **@CAFOD #ZeroHero**, or email them to us at schools@cafod.org.uk



Other ideas to be a Zero Hero



Get creative
Make a display of recycled materials in the shape of a zero.



Reflect
Gather together as a class or whole school and reflect with our climate liturgy.



Watch our film
Talk about climate change after watching our net zero explainer film.



Book a CAFOD visitor
Invite a school visitor in to hold an assembly or workshop on the campaign.

"Young people demand change."

Pope Francis