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## **Pupils help promote climate change strategy**



Dr David Golding with pupils, Lilian Sutton, Bradley Young, and Scott Rennison.

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### **YOUNGSTERS in North Tyneside are getting eco-friendly as they celebrate a new strategy aimed at tackling climate change.**

Pupils from six schools were joined by local campaigner Dr David Golding CBE to highlight the borough's climate change strategy, which was unveiled [on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May] by North Tyneside Council's cabinet last year.

The pupils, who have already pledged to support the initiative's priorities, were at the Rising Sun Country Park for a formal launch and join in Food for Life Programme workshops.

Dr Golding, development co-ordinator for Make Poverty History North East, joined the youngsters in potting up young vegetable plants.

The schools involved in the event were Southridge First, Whitley Bay; South Wellfield First, Whitley Bay; King Edward Primary, North Shields; Richardson Dees Primary, Wallsend; St Columbas RC Primary, Wallsend; Rockcliffe First, Whitley Bay.

They each gave a short presentation to highlight what their school is doing to tackle climate change.

Projects being implemented include school allotment projects, school travel plans to reduce the use of cars, cycling schemes, and work to make the schools more energy efficient.

Coun John Stirling, cabinet member for sustainable development, said: "Climate change is a problem that everyone can genuinely do something about by changing

their behaviour in even small steps, such as turning off appliances when not in use or planting their own vegetable plot.

"The borough's first climate change strategy sets out how the council will work with its partners to take our commitment forward.

"This is something that we have a moral duty to deliver for our children and grandchildren."

The strategy sets four key principles for the council:

- reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions
- support communities to adapt to the impact of climate change
- raise awareness of sustainable development through an education programme
- delivery of the carbon management action plan.