Clean Air Barnet Insight Report: Breathe London Status

Breathe London Outdoor Air Quality Monitoring 2026

This report provides an overview of the Breathe London Monitoring networks at February 2026 and the different legal limits, targets and guidelines for air quality,

Breath London Network

Since late 2025, the Breathe London network has been run by two organisations and held on two separate websites:

- The London Mayors Breathe project https://www.airquality.london/sensors
- Breathe London Community network managed by Imperial College: https://www.breathelondon-communities.org/

Imperial College also include nodes funded by councils.

It is understood that different makes of monitors are deployed by the project to those used by the Imperial College network. It is not clear whether this impacts on comparability of data collected.

Both types of Breathe London[1] Air Quality nodes measure Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) and Particulate Matter of diameters of 2.5 micrometers or less ($PM_{2.5}$).

- Nitrogen oxides: "*Compounds formed when nitrogen and oxygen combine. NOx, which comprises nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), is emitted from combustion processes. NO is subsequently oxidised to form NO2, although some NO_2 is emitted directly. Main sources include road transport, power generation and industrial combustion.*" [2]
- Particulate matter (PM): "*Small breathable particles classified according to size. PM is not a single compound. It is made up of a mixture of solid and liquid particles of organic and inorganic chemicals; and includes some naturally occurring substances, such as salt and dust. The smaller the particle, the further it can penetrate into the lungs through inhalation. Sources of PM are classified as either primary, such as particles from engine combustion or break and tyre wear; or secondary, when other substances react to form PM in the atmosphere.*" [3]

Barnet nodes

At the start of 2024 Barnet had eleven nodes in operation, four of which had also been operating for all of 2022 and 2023. These four (Cat Hill Allotments, Martin Primary School, Orion Primary School, Wessex Primary School) ceased operating on December 14th, 2024, due to funding by the London Mayor being put out to tender. In April 2025 the nodes were replaced by ones operated by the Mayor's project and so full year data has not been collected.

Nodes at Golders Green and Fairway School ceased operating mid-2024 due to funding ending. At the end of 2024 there were only five active Breathe London community nodes.

During 2025, three new nodes in Barnet (*Watling Avenue/Barnfield Road, Barnfield Primary School, Burnt Oak Station*) funded by Barnet Council, however these nodes only began collecting data at the end of February. Other nodes that were active at the start of 2025 (*Residents Action on Climate and Health, Christ's College Finchley Breathe, Cricklewood Lane, NW7hub, Mary Immaculate and St. Peter's Church*) are still active in 2026.

Appendix A provides further details about status and location of the Breathe London nodes in Barnet.

[1] https://www.breathelondon.org/
[2] https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9600/CBP-9600.pdf
[3] https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/compliance-data

Status and location of Barnet Breathe London nodes February 1st 2026

Site Code	Site Name	Site Classification	Start Date	Comments on data availability
London Mayor Breathe nodes				
CLDP0063	The Orion Primary School	Urban Background	10. June 2021	Data collected from April 2025 onwards Collected data for majority of 2024 Collected data for full years 2022 and 2023
CLDP0066	Wessex Gardens Primary School	Urban Background	10. June 2021	Data collected from March 2025 onwards Collected data for majority of 2024 Collected data for full years 2022 and 2023
CLDP0114	Martin Primary School-Playground	Urban Background	21. July 2021	Data collected from November 2025 onwards Collected data for majority of 2024 Collected data for full years 2022 and 2023
CLDP0130	Cat Hill Allotments	Roadside	4. September 2021	Data collected from March 2025 onwards Collected data for majority of 2024 Collected data for full years 2022 and 2023
Active Imperial College Breathe Community nodes				
CLDP0455	Christ's College Finchley Breathe	Urban Background	16. June 2023	Collected data for full year in 2024 and 2025
CLDP0477	Cricklewood Lane	Roadside	7. July 2023	Collected data for full year in 2024 and 2025
CLDP0557	Mary Immaculate and St. Peter's Church	Urban Background	17. November 2023	Collected data for full year in 2024 and 2025
Active Imperial College Breathe Barnet Council funded nodes				
CLDP0632	Watling Avenue / Barnfield Road	Roadside	26. February 2025	Collected data for part of 2025
CLDP0633	Barnfield Primary School	Roadside	26. February 2025	Collected data for part of 2025
CLDP0634	Burnt Oak Station	Roadside	26. February 2025	Collected data for part of 2025

Inactive Imperial College nodes				
CLDP0454	Residents Action on Climate and Health	Roadside	7. July 2023	Operation ended 31 Dec 2025
CLDP0503	Golders Green Underground and Coach Station	Roadside	27. July 2023	Operation ended 26. May 2024
CLDP0534	Fairway School and Children's Centre	Urban Background	22. September 2023	Operation ended 13. July 2024
CLDP0532	NW7hub	Roadside	7. September 2023	Collected data for full year in 2024 and 2025

Timeline of nodes in Barnet to end 2025

Node	2021 – 2023	2024	2025 Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
The Orion Primary School	Started June 2021	Active until 14th December												
Wessex Gardens Primary School	Started June 2021	Active until 14th December												
Martin Primary School-Playground	Started July 2021	Active until 14th December												
Cat Hill Allotments	Started September 2021	Active until 14th December												
Residents Action on Climate and Health	Started July 2023													
Christ's College Finchley Breathe	Started June 2023													
Cricklewood Lane	Started July 2023													
Golders Green Underground and Coach Station	Started July 2023	Ended May												
NW7hub	Started September 2023													
Fairway School and Children's Centre	Started September 2023	Ended July												
Mary Immaculate and St. Peter's Church	Started November 2023													
Watling Avenue / Barnfield Road														
Barnfield Primary School														
Burnt Oak Station														

Location of nodes in Barnet and Neighbouring Boroughs

