

PITCHES IN PERIL

Climate experts *Football For Future* examine how climate change is already affecting football and the risks that will escalate in the years ahead, using *Jupiter Intelligence*'s ClimateScore Global platform



PITCH PROFILE

Name: Gtech Community Stadium

Capacity: 17,250

Opened: 2019

Location: Brentford, UK

How is climate change affecting the UK?

- The Met Office expects that the UK will experience warmer and wetter winters, hotter and dryer summers, and more frequent and intense weather extremes.
- The United Kingdom is considered to be one of the least vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change (182nd of 187) and is comparatively well positioned to adapt to more extreme weather (14th out of 187).

How will climate change affect the Gtech?

- Extreme heat:** Temperatures at the stadium are projected to rise; average annual temperature

is predicted to be 25% higher by 2100, with maximum temperatures potentially exceeding 37°C annually. By this time, heat could regularly disrupt play and exceed safe play limits at least once per year, with today's observed temperatures already exceeding predictions.

- Drought:** The stadium is already in an area of high-water stress, and this is projected to intensify; with demand projected to exceed available local water supply by 2100.
- Extreme weather events:** The extreme weather events that we face are projected to become more frequent, more intense and more disruptive to football; by 2100, the levels of rainfall experienced during 100-year extreme events in the Brentford area is predicted to be 35% higher, with extreme wind speeds also increasing.

Weather resilience at the Gtech

Our stadium has weather resilience built-in:

QUICK FACTS

The three hottest years on record in the UK have occurred since Brentford won promotion to the Premier League in 2021

Global annual carbon emissions have doubled since Keith Andrews was born in 1980

When the Gtech has been open for 50 years, the average annual temperature in Brentford is projected to be more than 2°C higher

- The stadium itself is designed to safely cope with strong winds and stormy weather.
- The pitch is built to stay in top shape all season with a reinforced grass hybrid surface, drainage system and undersoil heating to help cope with heavy rain, cold snaps, and busy fixture schedules.
- During darker months, pitch lights are used to help the grass recover and stay strong between games.
- We have solar panels on our roof to generate clean, renewable energy.

Final note

The Gtech shows how modern stadium design has weather resilience built in - but this analysis also highlights how football and communities alike must be prepared for the disruption caused by a changing climate.

Extreme weather is changing the game. By understanding the risks, we can prepare together and make sure everyone can keep enjoying football here and in our community for generations to come.

Scan the QR code to explore our sustainability strategy.

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METRIC		2020	2050	2100
Extreme Heat Number of days per year that heat exceeds disruptive levels		0	0	8
		0	0	1
Extreme Heat Number of days per year that heat exceeds safe play limits		0	0	1
		0	0	1
Drought Total water stress, the ratio of human water demand against available supply		0.6	0.8	1.1
		0.6	0.8	1.1
Extreme rainfall Maximum total precipitation at the 10-year and 100-year extreme rainfall events	10 YEAR	53mm	57mm	69mm
	100 YEAR	83mm	90mm	112mm