

Eco-Schools Environmental Review

Our school Eco - Warriors completed an environmental review of the school and its outside areas.

Once they had finished, they were responsible for collating the results and presenting them in tables for each eco category. This allowed them to decide which areas of school needed to become eco-friendly.

Here are the results:

Litter

Inside the school:

Is the inside of the school free from litter? e	Yes	No
Are there enough bins inside the school?	Yes	No
Are the bins in the right places? Bins in every classroom, dining room and next to photocopiers.	Yes	No
Are the bins emptied often enough? Bins are emptied every night. Bins sometimes overflow but this is due to lack of recycling.	Yes	No

School grounds:

Are the school grounds free from litter?	Yes	No
Are there enough bins around the school grounds?	Yes	No
Are the bins in the right places? Bin near doors on playground but most of the rubbish builds up around flower beds/grassed areas. Bins in these areas??	Yes	No
Are the bins suitable? E.g. does the litter blow out or are they too small/big? Children stated they don't want to touch the lids (wheelie bin style) Plus state the bins smell. Possible different style of bin the children don't need to touch.	Yes	No
If litter is present, is it coming from children in school or from outside the school grounds? Both, lots of packets blown by the wind but also cereal bar packets from children at playtimes.	School	Outside

Outside the school:

Is your community generally litter free?	Yes	No
Are there enough bins in the community? Bins around shopping areas but lack of bins on streets.	Yes	No
Does the school help to keep the community clean? Some people in the community yes but others drop lots of litter making our area look untidy.	Yes	No

General:

Does the school have a clear policy on litter?	Yes	No
Do all pupils know the problems caused to the environment and wildlife by dropping litter? Range of children from different year groups asked. Children are not knowledgeable about the problems caused by dropping litter.	Yes	No
Do you keep a record of what, where, when and amount of litter found?	Yes	No

Action Points/comments:

<p>Inside of school generally clean and tidy. This will improve further once building work is completed.</p> <p>Lots of litter around school grounds - Children stated they do not know where bins are and some said they do not like touching them. See notes above.</p> <p>Children not knowledgeable about litter and it affect the environment.</p> <p>School has no policy on litter.</p>

Waste Minimisation

Reduce:

Does the school use email to send newsletters? Newsletters go on the app and website but still sent out to all children.	Yes	No
If you send letters, is it one per family?	Yes	No
Do teachers photocopy back to back when they can?	Yes	No
Do pupils bring their packed lunch in reusable containers? Majority of children do bring their lunch in reusable containers but some do not.	Yes	No

Reuse: Recycling identified as a huge issue in school.

Is paper used on both sides before it is recycled?	Yes	No
Is scrap paper made into useful notebooks?	Yes	No
Are envelopes reused in the office?	Yes	No
Are exercise books made from recycled paper?	Yes	No
Are the toilet paper and hand towels made from recycled paper?	Yes	No
Does the office and photocopier use recycled paper?	Yes	No
Do you reuse any packaging in the classrooms (e.g. junk models)?	Yes	No
Do you have a swap shop for school uniform/games/ books/DVDs?	Yes	No

Recycle:

Which of the following do you recycle? (circle or highlight)		
Paper	Plastic	Cans
Batteries	Phones	Stamps
Cardboard	Glasses	
Clothing/Material	Cooked food	ink cartridges
Do you have a compost bin/area that is in use?	Yes	No
Is the compost made up of a mix of 'wet' and 'dry' materials?	Yes	No
Do you use your compost on the school grounds?	Yes	No
Do the kitchen staff compost vegetable peelings?	Yes	No
Does the kitchen recycle their waste?	Yes	No
Are there enough recycling bins around the school?	Yes	No
Do the recycling bins always have the right things in them?	Yes	No

Information:

Does everyone in the school know why you are trying to reduce waste?	Yes	No
Does anyone check how much waste you are preventing from going to landfill sites?	Yes	No
Do people in the school know what happens to things we recycle?	Yes	No

Action Points / Comments:

Recycling a huge issue in school.
Nothing is currently being recycled and this needs to be addressed as quickly as possible.
Most children not aware of what happens to things we recycle.

Energy

Gas / Oil:

Are windows and doors free from draughts? Some yes, some no. Some of the older windows particularly in the hall are very draughty.	Yes	No
Are curtains or blinds fitted at the windows?	Yes	No
If so, are they closed at night to keep warmth in?	Yes	No
Are windows and doors always kept shut when the heating is on? Some yes but issues with the heating. Some areas of the school being very hot and some being cold.	Yes	No
Are reflector panels fitted behind radiators?	Yes	No
Is the hot water comfortably hot, but not too hot?	Yes	No
In the staff room, is the kettle only filled with how much water is needed? Water boiler fitted so no need for staff to use kettle.	Yes	No
If there is a hot water boiler in the staff room, is it switched off when not in use?	Yes	No
Are hot water pipes and tanks properly insulated?	Yes	No
Is there insulation in the roof of the school building to reduce heat loss? Spotted lots of this in the new build.	Yes	No

Electricity:

Are lights always turned off in empty rooms?	Yes	No
Are lights turned off as soon as there is enough daylight?	Yes	No
Are lights switches for lights next to windows labelled, so that they are left off during the day?	Yes	No
Are lights switched on only where they are needed?	Yes	No

Are computers switched off when not in use? Computer suite is turned off after each use but teacher laptops are left on all day.	Yes	No
Do monitors have an energy saving shut down when not in use (not screen saver) or do pupils ensure that they are turned off?	Yes	No
Are overhead projectors, televisions and videos switched off at the socket when not in use?	Yes	No
Are photocopiers and similar equipment switched off when not in use? Only over holidays.	Yes	No

General:

Is everyone aware of how saving energy helps our planet?	Yes	No
Is there a system for checking how much energy is used/saved?	Yes	No
Has the school investigated possible sources of renewable energy?	Yes	No

Action Points /Comments:

Lots of energy wasted on a daily basis in school. As Eco council walked around school, they saw many computers and IWB screens left on even though no staff/children in the rooms. Many lights left on in empty rooms.

Add above to action plan.

Water

Is the school free from dripping taps?	Yes	No
If there are dripping taps, are they fixed quickly?	Yes	No
Do pupils always turn the taps off fully?	Yes	No
Are the toilets designed to reduce water loss with a low-volume flush? Some are – Staff toilets.	Yes	No
If not, do you have water saving devices in the toilet cisterns? <i>e.g. a Hippo bag or bottles filled with water</i>	Yes	No
Do the urinals flush only on request or only during school hours rather than constantly? Urinals flush using a sensor. Only flush when needed.	Yes	No
If you have push taps, do they dispense the right amount of water at the right speed?	Yes	No
Do you have a water butt to collect rainwater for watering plants?	Yes	No

Is rain water collected and used for anything else around the school? <i>e.g. Flushing toilets or maintaining pond levels</i>	Yes	No
Do pupils only fill their water bottles with as much as they need?	Yes	No
Is there a system for checking how much water is used/saved?	Yes	No
Do you learn about water availability in other countries?	Yes	No
Does everyone understand how saving water can help look after our planet? <i>(think about the energy used to make our water safe to drink)</i>	Yes	No

Action Points /Comments:

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Transport

Travel to school:

Do most pupils walk, cycle or catch the bus to school? <i>Eco council are unsure on this. Will conduct a survey to find out this information.</i>	Yes	No
Do you survey how people travel to school?	Yes	No
Is there somewhere dry and safe to store bikes?	Yes	No
Does the school provide cycle instruction for pupils? <i>Some yes – bikability course.</i>	Yes	No
Do you hold regular walk or cycle to school events/days?	Yes	No
Is it safe to walk or cycle to school?	Yes	No
Do cars park away from the entrance to the school?	Yes	No
Is the school car park a safe place for pedestrians?	Yes	No
Do the teachers share lifts wherever possible?	Yes	No
If pupils are collected in cars, do the drivers make sure that they turn their engine off when waiting?	Yes	No

Transport to the school:

Do any school vehicles use alternative energy e.g. Electricity or vegetable oil?	Yes	No
Do you try to source fruit for tuck locally and in season?	Yes	No
Does the kitchen try to source food locally? Some food from the kitchen is sourced locally but not all.	Yes	No
Do you learn about where food comes from and food miles?	Yes	No
Does the school order supplies in bulk to avoid too many deliveries?	Yes	No

Action Points / Comments:

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School Grounds

School Grounds for Pupils:

Are there games painted on the playground? Yes but children state they are boring.	Yes	No
Are there murals, mosaics, sculptures or other artwork? No but creators club with Miss Saunders are currently creating the above.	Yes	No
Are there lots of different surfaces to feel, touch and explore?	Yes	No
Are there plenty of things for climbing and balancing on, jumping and swinging from? Upper school yes, lower school no.	Yes	No
Are there quiet, shady places to sit and talk?	Yes	No
Do you grow your own vegetables or fruit in the school grounds?	Yes	No
Do you have an outdoor classroom/log circle area? Yes but this is currently not in use due to building work. New benches installed on lower school playground.	Yes	No
Do you have friendship stops or buddy benches?	Yes	No
Are any of the lessons held in the school grounds?	Yes	No
Do all pupils have the opportunity to suggest what changes or new things they would like in the school grounds?	Yes	No

School Grounds for Wildlife:

Does the school have trees in the grounds?	Yes	No
If yes, are there a variety of native trees?	Yes	No
Does the school have hedgerows?	Yes	No
Are newly planted trees looked after?	Yes	No
Does the school have a pond or marshy area?	Yes	No
Does your pond have an exit route for frogs, toads, newts and hedgehogs?	Yes	No
Does your pond have a variety of native plants?	Yes	No
Does your pond have a variety of depths?	Yes	No
Does your school have a meadow?	Yes	No
Does your meadow have a variety of flowers and grasses?	Yes	No
Does your school have areas of long/undisturbed vegetation linking habitats together?	Yes	No
Does your school provide habitats for a wide variety of minibeasts? Please circle the ones that you have: <i>Log pile Stone pile Minibeast hotel Scented flowers/herbs</i> <i>Butterfly bushes Areas of undisturbed vegetation</i>	Yes	No
Does your school provide habitats for a variety of birds? Please circle the ones that you have: <i>Bird boxes Bird feeders Bird bath Perching post</i> <i>Berry and nut bearing shrubs/trees</i>	Yes	No
Do you manage and look after your habitats for wildlife? Please circle the ones that you manage: <i>Trees Minibeast habitats Bird habitats Pond Meadow</i>	Yes	No
Do you keep a record of the different types of plants and animals that you find in your school grounds?	Yes	No

Are the school grounds free from herbicides and pesticides?	Yes	No
Do you always use peat-free compost?	Yes	No

Comments / Action Points:

Global Citizenship

Does your school have an active link with a school in another country?	Yes	No
Do the teachers have Fair Trade tea and coffee in the staffroom?	Yes	No
Are there any other Fair Trade products used in school? (fruit juice, footballs, bananas)	Yes	No
Are there games from other countries for pupils to use during wet play or in class?	Yes	No
Do you have any visitors from the local community to talk about local or global issues?	Yes	No
Are pupils aware of their Rights and Responsibilities (linked to the UN convention on the Rights of the Child)?	Yes	No
Do you consider the global impact of Eco-Schools actions and is the whole school aware? (e.g. how does turning off the lights help someone in a hot country?)	Yes	No
Do you have resources from other countries e.g. Clothing to dress up / artefacts / musical instruments?	Yes	No
Do you have any whole school awareness days to support people in other countries/situations?	Yes	No
Do school meals ever include food from other cultures/countries?	Yes	No
Do pupils look after their local community as well as their school?	Yes	No

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Comments/Action Points:

Healthy Living

Do you have a fruit tuck shop that is run by pupils?	Yes	No
Are pupils encouraged to bring fruit for break?	Yes	No
Do most pupils who bring a packed lunch have at least 2 pieces of fruit or vegetables?	Yes	No
Does the school canteen always have a salad option?	Yes	No
Does the school canteen avoid chips for at least 2 days a week?	Yes	No
Do pupils have the opportunity to suggest what they would like to include in the dinner/canteen menu?	Yes	No
Is there free drinking water available all day?	Yes	No
Are pupils allowed to have water during lesson times?	Yes	No
Do you link your Healthy Schools and Eco Schools targets together?	Yes	No
Do all pupils get to experience growing and then eating their own food?	Yes	No
Does the school use environmentally friendly cleaning products?	Yes	No
Is there a fitness programme established in the school? (e.g. 30, 40, 50 or Dragon Sports) <i>Only for upper school. Wake up shake up.</i>	Yes	No

Comments / Action Points:

