



Amy and Ella need no introduction – they have done some pretty amazing things in their bid to reduce single-use plastics over the past few years including collecting well more than 50,000 pieces of litter. Part of their mission is to make schools ‘plastic clever’... Read on to discover more about how you can make your school plastic clever.

Step 1: Kids Against Plastic Committee

It is a good idea to ask your school’s Eco-Committee to lead this action, however, if a school wants to become plastic clever then it requires a whole- school effort.

Step 2: Kids Against Plastic Check

Amy and Ella are particularly passionate about putting a stop to the ‘big four’ in plastic pollution: bottles, bags, cups and straws. Begin your journey to becoming plastic clever by completing an audit of your school to find out if the big four are running riot.

Step 3: Kids Against Plastic Plan

Amy and Ella have compiled five simple actions to combat the big four:

- **Avoid using plastic cups and encourage reusable items. Change coffee cups to recyclable ones, offer reusable spoons and only give out lids if asked for.**
- **Encourage the use of reusable water bottles. Give out free tap water and sell cans or cartons of water (they do exist) instead of plastic bottled water.**
- **Phase out single-use plastic straws and stirrers. Swap plastic straws for paper alternatives and provide reusable spoons or wooden stirrers instead of plastic ones.**
- **Avoid packaging hot or cold food in plastic tubs. Replace plastic packaging with paper or cardboard instead.**
- **Avoid single-use plastic cutlery. Offer reusable cutlery instead. Otherwise provide wooden cutlery instead of single-use plastic cutlery.**

Amy and Ella also have resources to download and display on their website to help your school become plastic clever.

Step 4: Kids Against Plastic and the Curriculum

Amy and Ella are currently working on a curriculum resource pack for teachers and students

Keep checking their (and our) website for updates!

Step 5: Kids Against Plastic Catchment

Before you put a ban on single-use plastics in your school, Amy and Ella suggest you educate your school on the issues surrounding single-use plastics. Often people don’t realise the damage their choices or actions are doing to our planet, but once they have been made aware of the issue they are far more likely to be engaged in becoming a Plastic Clever school. Amy and Ella suggest you inform people by hosting an assembly (search for their terrific Ted Talk for inspiration). If you need any further information about why it is important to reduce single-use plastics head over to their website:

www.beplasticclever.co.uk

Step 6: Kids Against Plastic Calculate

You can check if your school is plastic clever by completing another audit (like in Step 2) to see if the big four have been tamed in your school. Remember to e-mail your findings and a photo of pupils and staff being plastic clever to Amy and Ella at:

schools@beplasticclever.co.uk



Step 7: Kids Against Plastic Code

Amy and Ella say, don’t be stupid, be plastic clever, what do you say?