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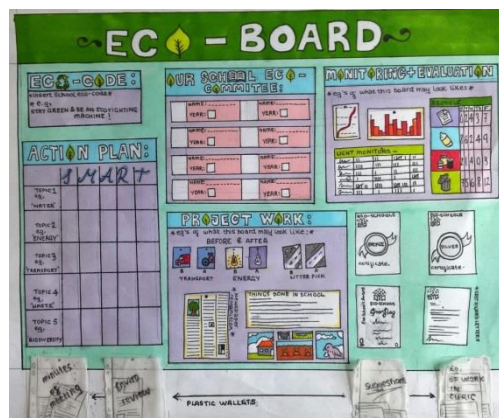
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Eco-Schools Guide to Informing and Involving

Here is the evidence that is needed for Step Five: Informing and Involving:

- The first thing you will need is an up-to-date Eco-Board. You can find our example on the Eco-Schools website:



- If you have involved the whole school in one of the actions in your Action Plan take photographs and display these on your Eco-Board.
- Curriculum evidence from a variety of year groups shows your whole school is involved.
- During your assessment visit, the assessor may ask children not on your Eco-Committee about Eco-Schools project work or whether they are aware of your Eco-Code.





Eco-Schools Guide to Informing and Involving

Guide to Informing and Involving parents/carers.

One of the best things about the Eco-Schools programme is it encourages involvement from the wider school community. We have seen many examples of involvement from parents/ carers in the past; some have even introduced the Eco-Schools programme to their child's school. If you have your own ideas for involving parents/ carers, please let us know. If you need some inspiration, here are some of our top tips to get you started:

- Tell parents/carers about your participation in Eco-Schools at the start of your journey or academic year and ask them if they want to get involved. If any parents or carers are eager to be involved they can join your school's Eco-Committee.
- Invite parents to Eco-Schools assemblies (especially if the Eco-Committee is delivering them).
- Give regular updates to parents via newsletters and social media.
- Plan environmental actions that are easy for parents to be involved with such as a walk to school week.
- Your Eco-Committee could make their own 'Home Environmental Review' to see whose home is the most green.
- Encourage children to take what they learn about being environmentally friendly and apply it at home. The Eco-Committee could even make a guide for parents, such as how to lower energy and water use.
- Organise community events such as litter-picks or adoption of communal land.
- Host an Eco-Stall at school fairs, you could sell eco-products or produce your school has grown.
- At sports days have an Eco-Committee booth designed to keep all safe through providing healthy refreshments and sun cream.
- Ask for parents' help; they might have knowledge or skills that your Eco-Committee can benefit from.





Eco-Schools Guide to Informing and Involving

Guide to Informing and Involving your local community.

At Eco-Schools we encourage schools to involve their local community in their environmental work including: parents and carers, local residents and businesses. Since the Eco-Schools programme began in England, we have seen schools successfully involve their communities in a variety of ways. If you are looking for some inspiration on how to involve your wider community here are some of our tips:

- Ask your Eco-Committee to present at school open evenings. Parents of potential Eco-Committee members will be delighted to hear a conscientious group of children talk about their efforts to care for the planet.
- Ask local businesses for help fundraising. This will help you raise funds to deliver your Action Plan as well as spreading awareness of your Eco-Code.
- As well as offering financial support, often local businesses can offer their skills, expertise or products as support.
- You could adopt a green space outside the school grounds that your school could maintain and keep litter-free for the benefit of your community.
- If you know another local school that has achieved a Green Flag or would like to, you could collaborate with them to complete one of your actions.
- Informing local press such as newspapers or radio stations can help gather support and tell your community about your Eco-Committee's work.
- When you achieve your Green Flag award, display it proudly – this will let everyone know that your school cares about protecting the world we live in. Remember your school is now part of the largest educational programme on the planet!

