



Eco-Schools Guide to Informing and Involving The Eco-Board

EC - BOARD

ECO-CODE:
Insert School eco-code
* e.g. STAY GREEN & BE AN ECO-FIGHTING MACHINE!

ACTION PLAN:
SMART

TOPIC	1	2	3	4	5
eg. WATER					
eg. ENERGY					
eg. TRANSPORT					
eg. WASTE					
eg. BIODIVERSITY					

OUR SCHOOL ECO-COMMITTEE:

NAME:	YEAR:	NAME:	YEAR:

MONITORING + EVALUATION
* e.g. of what this board may look like:

WENT MONITORS:

DATE	1	2	3	4	5
Jan	111	111	111	111	111
Feb	111	111	111	111	111
Mar	111	111	111	111	111
Apr	111	111	111	111	111
May	111	111	111	111	111
Jun	111	111	111	111	111
Jul	111	111	111	111	111
Aug	111	111	111	111	111
Sep	111	111	111	111	111
Oct	111	111	111	111	111
Nov	111	111	111	111	111
Dec	111	111	111	111	111

PROJECT WORK:
* e.g. of what this board may look like:

BEFORE & AFTER

TRANSPORT ENERGY LITTER PICK

THINGS DONE IN SCHOOL

PLASTIC WALLETS:

MINUTES OF MEETING

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

SURVEY

EDUCATION

The Eco-Board is an essential part of Eco-Schools life. The board acts as a blue print for all of your environmental plans and a constant reminder that to be a successful Eco-School takes a whole school approach. Whenever possible, the Eco-Board should be designed and kept up-to-date by the Eco-Committee. Above is a Green Flag standard Eco-Board, which can also be found on our website by clicking anywhere Eco-Board is mentioned. One of the main pieces of evidence the Eco-Schools team looks for, when desk assessing your Green Flag application, is the photo of your Eco-Board you are asked to upload – so try to upload a clear picture that clearly demonstrates you are meeting the Eco-Schools criteria.



The Eco-Board should contain the following information:

- The Eco-Committee including names, year groups and (if possible pictures).
- Meeting Minutes from Eco-Committee meetings.
- A copy of your completed Eco-Schools Environmental Review.
- A copy of the Eco-Schools Action Plan the Eco-Committee have decide on.
- Evidence of the environmental actions worked on in your schools Action Plan.
- Examples of curriculum work linking to environmental issues.
- Evidence that you have monitored the success of your Action Plan. One example of Monitoring and Evaluation should link to The National Curriculum (graphs, charts, pictograms etc).
- Previous Eco-School award certificates (Bronze, Silver and former Green Flags).
- Your Eco-Code that has been drawn up by pupils.

Guide to Informing and Involving your local community.

At Eco-Schools we encourage Eco-Committees to involve their local community in their environmental work including: other nearby primary and secondary schools; parents and carers; local residents and businesses. Since the Eco-Schools programme began in England, we have seen Eco-Committees 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 students talk about their efforts to care for the planet.
- Ask local businesses for help fundraising, this will help your 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 often offer their skills, expertise or products as support.
- Contact nearby universities, as they often appreciate the chance to get involved in local school projects.
- Adopt a green space outside the school grounds that your school could maintain and keep litter free for the benefit of your local community.



- If you know another local school that has achieved a Green Flag or would like to, you could collaborate with them to complete a local action. You could even help younger primary school pupils with their Eco-Schools work.
- Informing local and national press such as newspapers or radio stations can help gather support and tell your community about your Eco-Committees work: we see Eco-Schools celebrating their achievements in the press all the time!
- When you achieve your Green Flag award, display it proudly – this will let everyone know that your student body is passionate about the world we live in.
- Get in touch with your local council or water authority – they often have projects you can participate in or free resources available to schools
- Link up with your local Friends of groups. The volunteers who look after parks would be delighted to have so many helpers – it will also help to give other young people in your school an insight into issues in your local community.
- Enter local and national competitions – The Young Gardener of the Year is an Eco-Schools student and we have seen plenty of local gardening competitions won by Eco-Schools.

Guide to Informing and Involving parents or guardians.

One of the best things about the Eco-Schools programme is it can spread your school's ecological message beyond the student body. Part of this is trying to get parents or carers involved to maximise the impact of your eco-work. Parent and guardian involvement can also be a benefit to you - often they can volunteer time and skills to aid you in your eco-work. If you have your own ideas for involving parents, please use them and let us know about them. If not, here are some tips to get you started:

- Tell parents/carers about Eco-Schools at the start of your participation and ask them if they want to get involved. If any parents or carers are very eager, they can join you on your school's Eco-Committee.
- Invite parents to share ideas about what they think you could achieve on the Eco-Committee.
- Update parents using school newsletters and social media.



- Plan environmental actions that are easy for parents to be involved with, for example if you decide to keep chickens: sell the eggs to parents.
- Encourage students to apply what they learn, through participation in the Eco-Schools programme, at home (taking part in Switch Off Fortnight? then make sure the Xbox or PS4 is turned off and not just left on standby).
- Host an Eco-Stall at school fairs or regularly throughout the year (you could sell eco-products or produce your school has grown).
- If you need help with one of your actions ask parents they might have knowledge or skills that you can benefit from.
- Organise community events such as litter-picks or adoption of communal land.