

Guidelines for the Green-Schools Water Ambassador Programme



The Green-Schools Water Ambassador Programme 2022/23, run in partnership with Irish Water, aims to raise awareness about the importance of water and issues surrounding this resource amongst schools and local communities.

Students can apply from any year and can apply on their own, in pairs or in a groups up to 4. However, applications should be completed by each individual. More than one ambassador can apply from a school.

Various topics will be discussed during the water ambassador training days that the students can choose between and then share what they are interested in with their school and community. Some of which are: Green-Schools (what it is), the scarcity and importance of water, walk for water, water pollution and water quality testing, water saving techniques, virtual water, marine litter, wastewater and water treatment. All training day presentations will be made available to all ambassadors for use during their work on the programme.

Green-Schools Coordinator and/or supporting teacher must also attend the training days to partake in water focused training.

To complete the programme ambassadors may pick one or more of the topics discussed during the **training days in November** to focus their efforts on. Ambassadors must then share their information with **their school and at least one community group or local business and at least two forms of communication should be used**. There are various ways ambassadors can do this, for example: radio, quizzes, intercom, presentations, notice board, online or distanced open days, leaflets, text-a-parent, linking with local groups, media and film. Also, please remember if ambassadors would like Green-Schools to like a Facebook page, put some images on Flickr etc. please contact the water team on water@greenschoolsireland.org

All water ambassadors and coordinators/supporting teachers are asked to also attend a **support session in January/February (details will be sent in early January)** which will provide a chance to share ideas and learn from last year's ambassadors. Students and coordinators/supporting teachers will be required to complete a brief progress report in January (**deadline Wednesday 18th of January**) which allows us to identify where people are having difficulties and what they are interested in, allowing us to tailor the support sessions.

After ambassadors have communicated with their school and community, they **must complete a short final report form and submit it by Friday 21st of April**. The report asks the below questions:

1. What did you learn from the Green-Schools water ambassador programme?
2. How did you share your experience and with whom?
3. How will you use the information from the programme in the future?

Please note the reports must be completed by the ambassadors.

At least **two forms of supporting information** should be submitted with the report form. For example:

- PowerPoint presentation
- Photos in jpeg form (5 max)
- Videos in mp4 format if possible (or send us link to YouTube/Vimeo private video)
- Sound recordings in mp3 format if possible

A separate coordinator report will also need to be completed in April and this form will be emailed directly to the teacher for completion.

Upon receipt of all ambassador reports, a panel of experts will choose regional and runner-up regional ambassadors who will then be invited to attend a special awards ceremony in May 2023. Furthermore, all ambassadors may be invited to attend future events to share all that they have learned during the programme and gain further communication skills.

Certificates will be handed out upon receipt of all reports.

If you have any questions, please contact Ruth or Caoimhe on 087-1469480 and/or email: water@greenschoolsireland.org
