

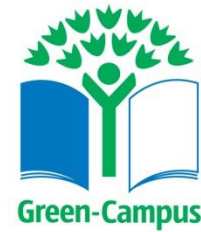
Green-Schools

Introduction to the Litter and Waste Theme



Litter and Waste Seminar

An Taisce EEU



An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland



The aim of the Green-Schools Programme

'Is to increase students' and participant awareness of environmental issues through classroom studies and to transfer this knowledge into positive environmental action in the school and also in the wider community'



Green-Schools Ireland

International
Environmental Programme

Holistic

Ethos



Award Scheme

Long Term
Programme

Whole-School Action

Partnership



GREEN-SCHOOLS IN IRELAND

4,000 schools registered



Over 93% of all schools
in Ireland

71,514 teachers
782,661 pupils

3,410 schools awarded

Green-Schools Themes



9: GC Travel



10: GC Food & Biodiversity



1: Litter & Waste



2: Water



8: GC Marine Environment

Green- Schools
Themes



3: Energy



7: GC Energy



6: GC Litter & Waste



5: Biodiversity

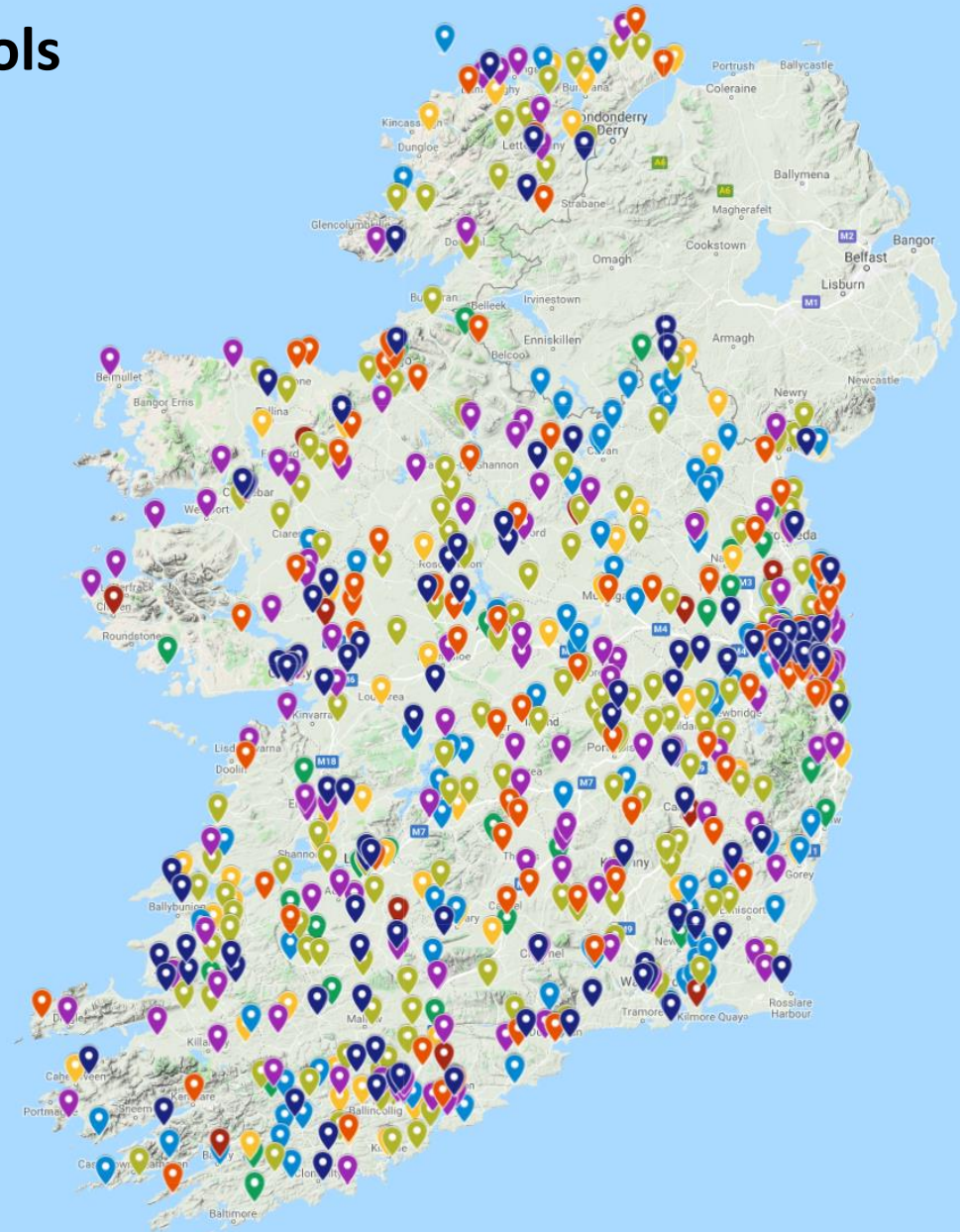


4: Travel



2019 Green-Schools Flags Awarded

-  **Litter & Waste**
-  **Energy**
-  **Water**
-  **Travel**
-  **Biodiversity**
-  **Global Citizenship**
- Litter & Waste
-  **Global Citizenship**
- Energy
-  **Global Citizenship**
- Marine Environment



Phases



Registration



Implementation



Application



Assessment & Award



Implementing the Programme – The 7 Steps!

7. Green Code



2. Environmental Review



3. Action Plan



4. Monitoring and Evaluation



1. Green-Schools Committee

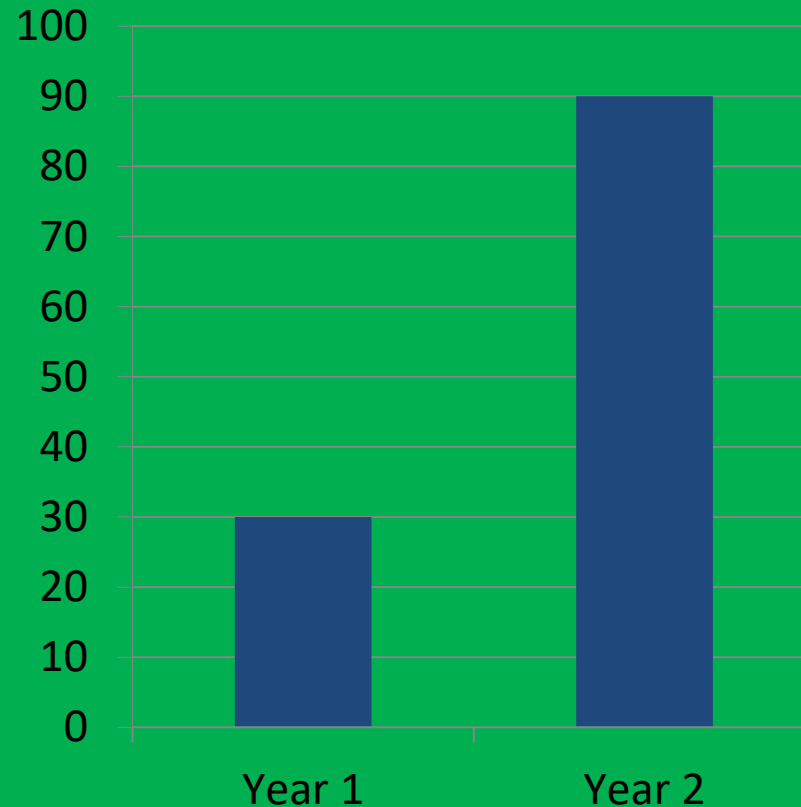
6. Informing and Involving



5. Curriculum Work

Does Green-Schools Make a Difference?

Raising awareness is
KEY!



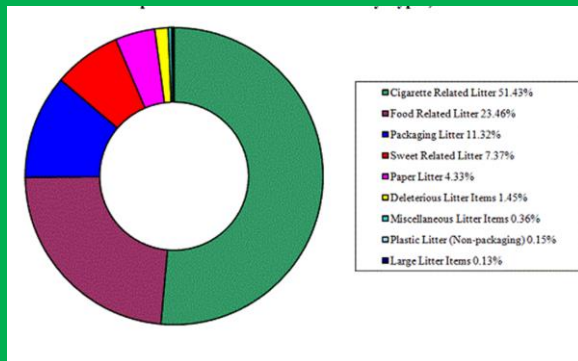
Remember...



- Situation will vary from school to school
- Green-Schools is a structured but FLEXIBLE programme

Litter

- Can harm or kill wildlife
- A health hazard that may attract rats and flies which can spread disease.
- Food litter is a health ruins the appearance of our towns and countryside.
- Toxins in our litter can contaminate our soil and water.
- These toxins enter the food chain by being eaten or absorbed by animals, most commonly by sea creatures such as plankton and shellfish.
- Dog fouling is unsanitary and the presence of the *Toxocara canis* in dog faeces poses a serious threat to the public's health.



Waste

- Ireland generates on average over 2.7 million tonnes (t) of municipal waste with 4 operational landfill sites compared with 25 in 2010. Waste disposal capacity at a critical low.
- 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic waste created since 1950. 30% still in use, 12% incinerated, 9% recycled, 79% landfilled or remains in environment (6.3 billion tonnes discarded)
- Waste to energy incinerator operational since 2011 (treats 35% of our residual waste) 600,000 tonnes per year. Capacity to convert 20 million tonnes of waste into more than 10 million MWh — enough clean energy to power over 1 million homes.
- 41% recycling rate
- Even with recycling (predicted at 45/50% by 2020), there will remain a need to treat 1.6 – 1.7 million tonnes of residual waste annually and population growth and economic growth will fuel this further.



Step 1: Green-Schools Committee

Essential:

- Students (N.B. student led)
- Co-ordinator

Optional:

- Teaching Staff & Non-teaching staff
- Principal
- Caretaker
- Parents & Community Members

Tips:

- Represent all classes
- Sub committees
- Delegate responsibility of notice board to a different class each week, enforcing whole school involvement
- Award best classroom with 'green cup/cert'
- Meet regularly and keep notes!

Remember! Whole school involvement!

Eg: St Cronan's Sec. school, N. Tipp. 58 pupils, teachers, parent rep & community rep.



Step 2: Environmental Review



- Identify and quantify the initial situation. **how?**

Essential Actions:

- Litter and Waste Checklists (online)
- Identify litter black spots
- Waste Audit (online):
 - What is going into the bins?
 - How much waste?



Assess levels of awareness (Recommended)

Create a map of litter black spots (Recommended)

What and how much is being recycled (Recommended)



Check out your Litter and Waste Handbook for an example of an Environmental Review!



Litter Checklist

The following checklist is an open-ended checklist looking at the schools impact on the environment in relation to litter. This checklist also has an educational function whereby the process of gathering data raises awareness and gives you a basis for developing your action plan. Each question in the checklist can be answered 'yes' or 'no'. 'No' indicates that improvement is possible. Quantifiable targets can then be set for area highlighted for improvement. The questions in the review below are suggested questions please feel free to add questions in order to examine a particular area relevant to your school.

Question	Yes/No	Action Notes: Litter
Does your school have a litter problem?		
Does your school have a policy on litter?		
Is the school clean inside?		
Are there any areas where litter is particularly bad?		
Are there any times of the day/week where litter is particularly bad?		
Does the litter mostly originate from inside the school?		
Are there enough litterbins inside the school?		
Are there enough litterbins outside the school?		
Are they in the right places?		
Are certain types of litter more commons than others?		
Have your school ever carried out a litter survey?		
Do you take part in local (e.g. Tidy Towns) or national events (e.g. National Spring Clean) tackling litter?		
Is the topic of litter incorporated into the school ethos/curriculum?		
Have the school ever been visited by a Litter Warden from the Local Authority?		



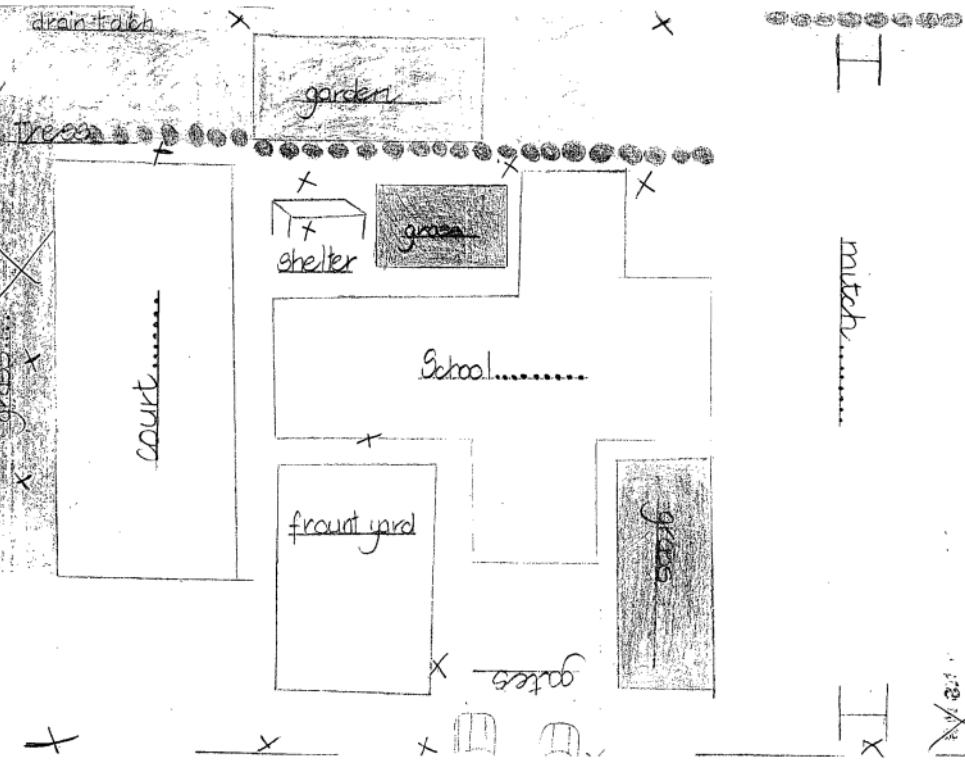
Waste Checklist

The following checklist is an open-ended checklist looking at the schools impact on the environment in relation to waste. This checklist also has an educational function whereby the process of gathering data raises awareness and gives you a basis for developing your action plan. Each question in the checklist can be answered 'yes' or 'no'. 'No' indicates that improvement is possible. Quantifiable targets can then be set for area highlighted for improvement. The questions in the review below are suggested questions please feel free to add questions in order to examine a particular area relevant to your school.

Question	Yes/No	Action Notes: Waste
Prevention/Minimisation		
Is there a purchasing policy for materials such as toilet tissues, stationery, books, notepaper, etc?		
Does the school have email addresses/mobile phone numbers for families?		
Does the school use notice boards/circulars to give out information to staff instead of individual bulletins?		
Are students encouraged to avoid excess packaging with their lunches?		
Are long life products chosen over short life ones?		
Are materials bought in large packs to avoid excessive packaging?		
Are copies/records kept on disk, not paper?		
Is paper used on both sides?		
Re-use/Recycle		
Is re-useable selected first, then recyclable?		
Are old envelopes saved for re-use?		
Are casual notes written on scrap paper?		
Is office waste paper recycled?		
Does the school have or use any recycling facilities?		
If so what materials are recycled?		
Does the school have a compost heap or compost bin?		
Is the topic of waste and waste minimization incorporated into the school ethos/curriculum?		


Recommended Actions

Map of Litter Black Spots



Sample Awareness Questionnaire


1. Do you know what  means?

Yes = 

No = 




2. Do you know what this symbol means?

Yes = 

No = 



3. Do you know why we recycle?

Yes = 

No = 



4. Do you know what this is made of?

Yes = 

No = 



Step 3 Action Plan

Action	Person/Group Responsible	Time Frame
Carry out a Biodiversity Awareness Survey to examine the level of awareness among students and staff	Green-Schools Committee	Early to mid September
Habitat Map the school grounds and do up a list of the biodiversity in our school	Green-Schools Committee	Early to mid September

Two overall objectives

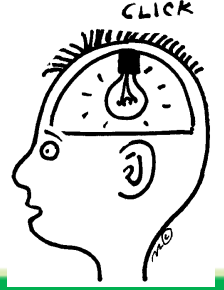


1) Increase levels of awareness



2) Practical improvements

Step 3: Action Plan



- Use findings from Environmental Review to set realistic, quantifiable targets
- Table format
- Person/group responsible
- Timeframe
- Ongoing
- Display on **Notice Board**



Step 3: Action Plan

Action	Person/Group Responsible	Timeframe	Progress Made
Action Day: Litter Attack	Whole School	Jan 18 th 2018	Achieved
Set up Green Schools Notice Board	Committee	Jan 2018	Achieved
Weekly monitoring of waste going to land fill & recycling. Repeat Environmental Review	See Rota	Feb 2017 and April 2018	Achieved
Reduce paper usage by 50%	Whole School	April 2018	In progress
Include Recycling Tips on our Newsletter	Committee	April 2017	Continuous
Creation of their own environmentally friendly cleaning products	Rang 2	March 2018	
Action Day: Recycled Paper Dress up	Senior Classes	May 18 th 2018	Achieved
Raise Awareness through environmental activities e.g. art, videos, games, chats	Junior Classes	Every Friday	Continuous

Examples



Step 4: Monitoring and Evaluation

NB: Not just results but how you achieved them!



- Developed in parallel with Action Plan
- Carried out by students when and where possible, **How?**
- Litter wardens/fine/detentions/positive incentives
- Lunch box and bin monitoring systems
- Regularly revise action plan
- Use photos, bills, charts, eco diaries, surveys, graphs, traffic light system;

➤ **Red Light:** Over 15 pieces of litter found ...

➤ **Orange:** 5-10 pieces

➤ **Green:** 5 pieces or less

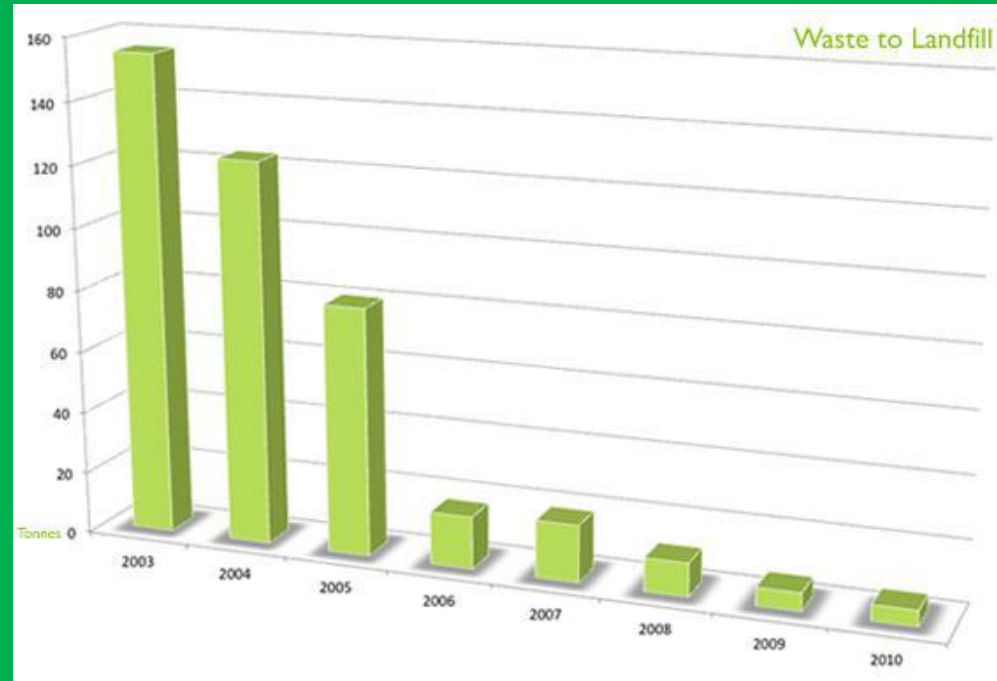


Step 4: Monitoring and Evaluation

June 2018

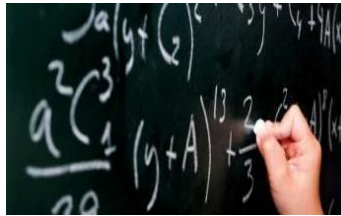
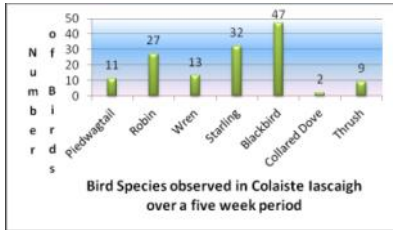


Graph & display your results



- Publicise work and results
- Keep records of everything!!!
- Celebrate!!!

Step 5: Curriculum Work



Maths

Provide real life situations for mathematical analysis (graphs/charts)



Science

Develop a scientific approach to problem solving
Encourage responsibility for the environment

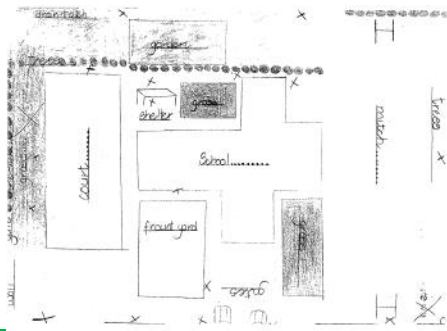
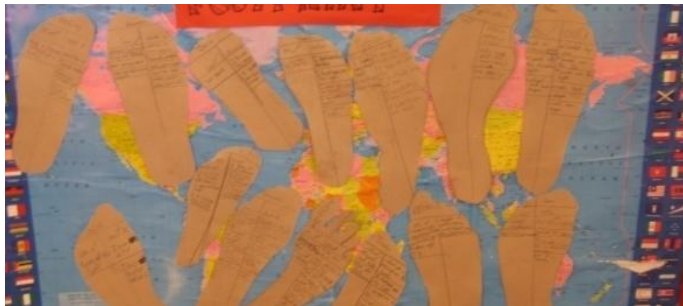


Art

Posters, murals, fashion to aid environmental awareness

Step 5: Curriculum Work

'Pick up your litter & let the place glitter'



Languages

Essay topics, new Green Code, as Gaeilge/French. Promotes public speaking etc.

CPSE (Secondary)

Recognised as a suitable Action project for Junior Cert

Geography

Mapping the school grounds, discussion & exploration of environmental issues e.g. pollution & litter

Step 5: Curriculum Work



Home Economics

Examine where our food & textiles come from
Investigate ways of reducing/reusing etc.



Woodwork

Design & construct bins/signs/bird
tables/boxes



History

Examine changes throughout time

Step 6. Informing and Involving

- GS notice board, photographs, participation, reading books, games, committee meetings, programme actions, talks, Posters/art displays, videos etc.
- Newsletters
- Social media platforms
- Texts and emails home
- Promotion of events and action days to the community
- Engage with local media and newspapers about your achievements and action days.
- Write to local businesses asking them to think about reducing plastic packaging and single use plastic items.
- Parents/ grandparents (e.g. Eco Ed) etc.



Green School

Step 1 Step 2 Step 3

Green School Committee Environmental Review Action Plan

Litter Survey Results

Waste Paper Audit

Kitchen Waste Audit

Reuse Recycle

Na dean cleamach faoi ngluachl amaraich!
fx 4y, 4z, 3c

COMORTAS GLAN AGUS GLAS

26-30 Aibreán

26-30 Aibreán

26-30 Aibreán

Drumgallagh N.S. Landfill waste Reduction

WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

Green School

information

Energy

Can you try to Save energy at home??

Remember to ask our pupils and staff how to save energy

Good Luck &

Green schools matter! Our new project is energy! We are trying to save energy in our school. Thank you!

Day of action!

Our action plan

New Code

Composed by Room 6.

No smoking

For Security Reasons

Day of Action

- Raise awareness of Green-Schools within and beyond your school
- Involve the wider community
- Educational tour of Recycling/Waste to energy plant
- Investigate what happens to your waste when it's taken away from the school, i.e. recycling/ landfill / sewerage.
- Open Day, Clean-up, Fashion Show, Concert
- Tidy Towns
- National Spring Clean
- Waste free Wednesdays

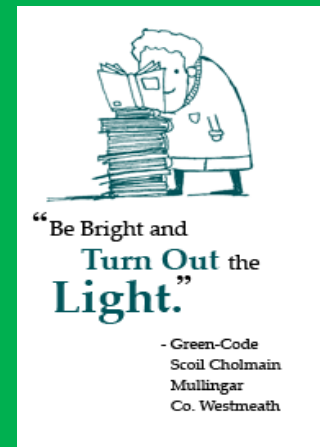
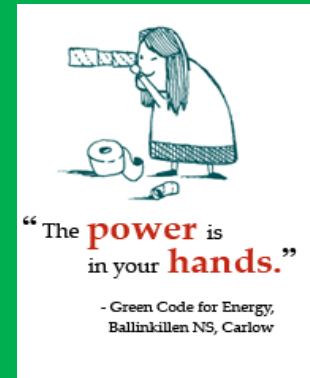
www.nationalspringclean.org



Green Code

Aim: To state the objectives that demonstrate the school's commitment to environmentally-friendly actions

- Competition
- Rap/song/poem
- Code of Conduct
- Display on Green-Schools Notice Boards



Health and Safety

Health and Safety Policies

Supervision

Gloves

Be aware of dangerous areas and insurance policies



www.mywaste.ie

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL mywaste.ie. The page features a green header with the mywaste logo and navigation links: 'what', 'where', 'why', and 'more'. A search bar is located to the right of these links. The main content area has a light green background and features a large banner for the 'upcycle challenge 2019'. The banner includes the text 'upcycle challenge 2019' in a large, bold font, followed by a paragraph: 'We want Ireland to get thinking creatively about reuse. We are so looking forward to seeing what creative ideas #UpcycleChallenge19 will bring, so why not join in and take part!'. Below this text is a link that says 'read more details' with a right-pointing arrow. To the right of the text is a large graphic of the letters 'W' and 'A' filled with a collage of images related to recycling and reuse. At the bottom left of the banner, there is a row of seven small green dots, with the first one being slightly larger and darker than the others.

English | Gaelge

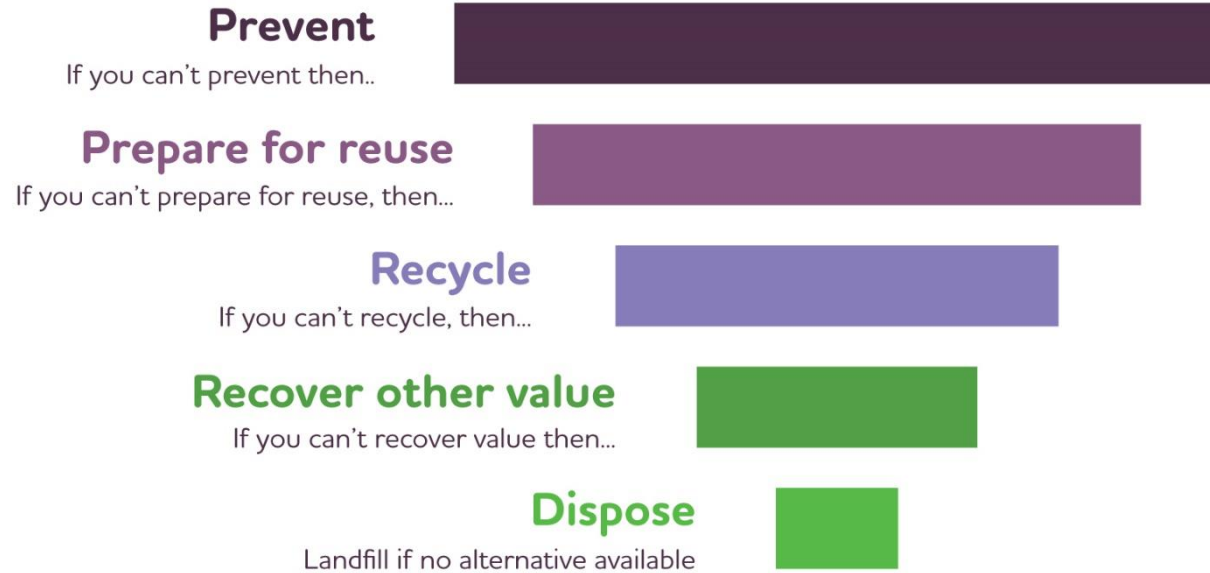
mywaste what ▾ where ▾ why ▾ more ▾ Search 🔍

upcycle challenge 2019

We want Ireland to get thinking creatively about reuse. We are so looking forward to seeing what creative ideas #UpcycleChallenge19 will bring, so why not join in and take part!

[read more details →](#)

Waste Management Hierarchy



Prevention and Minimisation

- Buy products with little or no packaging with a long life span
- Check your purchasing policy; is it necessary and where will it end up?
Dispose of refrigeration units, electrical good and batteries appropriately through the WEEE scheme.
- Try to repair items rather than throwing them away
- Implement a Lunch box policy to reduce packaging waste
- Cut up old clothes to make rags for cleaning.
- Compost organic waste.
- Talk to your postman about not delivering junk mail.
- Talk to your catering providers about eliminating single use plastic
- Organise a clothes, book or toy swap event.
- Make eco-friendly cleaning products.



Reuse

Checklists: Can the packaging or the product be used again?

➤ Reuse

- Old bottles and jars –storage
- Yoghurt pots, milk cartons – planters, wellies.
- Wrap presents in recycled wrapping paper or old newspaper.
- Scrap Box for paper
- Envelopes (re-use labels)
- Ice cream tubs (crayons)
- Art
- Shopping bags



Recycling

Rigid Plastics



Plastic Drink
Bottles



Plastic
Cleaning
Bottles



Butter, Yoghurt
& Salad Tub



Fruit &
Veg Trays



Plastic Milk
Cartons



Soap or
Shampoo
Bottles

Tins & Cans



Soup Cans



Pet Food Cans



Drink Cans



Food Cans

Paper & Cardboard



Letters and
Brochures



Cardboard Boxes
(Flat)



Egg Boxes



Toilet & Kitchen
Roll



Newspapers

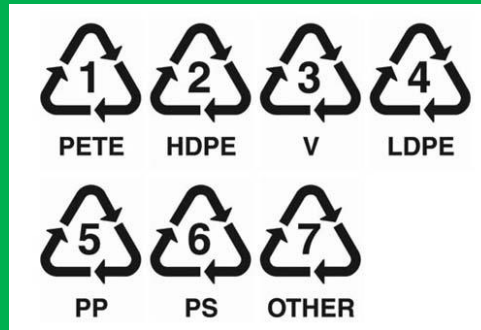
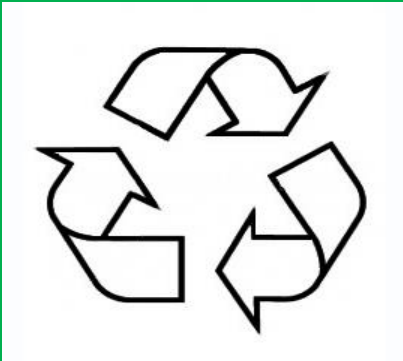


Tetra Pak Juice
or Milk Cartons

<https://www.mywaste.ie>

Any local collections – mobile phones, ink cartridges, stamps (for Charities)

Recycling



Composting

What can I compost at my school?

Anything that once lived or grew can be composted!

- Shredded paper
- All fruit and vegetables waste
- Tea bags/ coffee grounds
- Pencil parings
- Kitchen paper
- Compostable nappies

Why compost?

- Helps the environment by reducing waste
- Cheap, easy & saves on waste charges!
- Good for the garden-returns nutrients to the soil, conserves boglands



The 4 rules of Composting



1. Use quality MATERIALS (Greens & Browns)

2. Create an adequate VOLUME for the pile

3. Maintain consistent MOISTURE

4. Ensure good AIR circulation

Application Process

- Online Application Form-November 27th
- Recommendations
- Assessment visit(March 27th 2020)
- National Awards Ceremony (May)
- Flag raising ceremony
 - Everyone involved
 - Wider Community
 - Celebrate!!!



Green-Schools Litter Less Campaign 2019 - 2020

Apply for this exciting international campaign to tackle litter & waste in your school!

Why participate?

- Kick-start your Green-Schools programme!
- Additional support from Green-Schools staff
- Receive €300 funding towards your Litter & Waste actions
- Lesson plans and extra resources
- Extra credit towards your Green-Flag application
- Opportunity for international collaboration!



Open to Litter & Waste theme
Primary Schools only
Limited spaces!

For information on how to apply,
email Caoimhe at:
cobrienmoran@eeu.antaisce.org

What's involved?

- Purchase equipment for litter picking (funding provided)
- Develop your Green-Schools Action Plan!
- Hold a Community Action Day
- Monitor litter & waste 6 times throughout the year
- Teach 3 different lesson plans linked to litter and waste (provided)
- Report throughout the year & submit photos of your actions.

Benefits to the school:

- Anti-Litter & Waste Pack
(hoodies, hi-vis vest, badges, litter pickers, gloves & bags)
- Anti-Litter & Waste Workshops free of charge!
- Neat Streets Conference
- **€200 grant** to aid Neat Streets / Green-Schools Action Plan
- Continuing Support from An Taisce
- Neat Streets Award on completion of the programme

Teaching and saving energy in schools



Free resources
and supports for primary
and post primary schools

www.seai.ie/schools

What's available?



Workshops for teachers & children

- Primary and post primary workshops
- Facilitators visit the school for a day of workshops
- Content of workshops: sustainable energy, climate change & how everyone can make a difference to the environment

Resources

- Online & hard copy teaching resources for primary and post primary
- Posters for raising awareness
- Many available in Irish
- Developed by teachers and educational experts

One Good Idea competition

- Schools are in with a chance to see their film on the big screen (cinema)
- Open to all schools, submit ideas by end October

www.seai.ie/schools

Climate Action Programme

CLIMATE ACTION WEEK



14th – 20th
OCTOBER 2019

PLANNED EVENTS:

Join us for Ireland's 3rd annual Climate Action Week and kickstart your Green Flag application by hosting a Climate Action Day in your school. Whether you explore some climate data, create a novel way of communicating climate change in your local community or host a tree planting event, we want to hear from you!

Contact Climate Action Officer Gráinne at gryan@eeu.antaisce.org or 01 400 2222. Visit www.greenschoolsireland.org for Climate Action Week resources.

#ClimateActionWeek @GreenSchoolsIre




CLIMATE ACTION

TEACHER RESOURCE



Green-Schools Website-Online Forms !

The image shows the homepage of the Green-Schools website. The background is a photograph of a young boy in a school uniform holding a large green and blue flag. The website layout includes a logo in the top left, a navigation menu in the top center, and a main content area with a headline, a sub-headline, and a 'Learn More' button.

 **Green-Schools**
An Táir

[Home](#) [About](#) [Themes](#) [Resources](#) [Events](#) [News](#) [Apply](#)

Working together for a sustainable future

Green-Schools is Ireland's leading environmental management and award programme, working with primary and secondary schools across the country

[Learn More](#)

Questions & Answers

- Thank you for your attention!



Questions?

Contact us

01-4002222

greenschools@antaisce.org