

SECONDARY WATER SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Royal and Prior Comprehensive

Donegal



The Green-Schools Committee leads a variety of impactful initiatives in collaboration with students, parents, local businesses and organisations. A standout project is their long-running Cash for Clobber clothes recycling programme, which not only reduces textile waste but now incorporates a water conservation angle. By calculating the litres of water saved through recycled clothing (based on the water footprint of garments) the committee raises awareness of the environmental impact of fast fashion. In 2024 alone, the school recycled 470kg of clothing, with a goal to surpass that in 2025.

Another key achievement has been the installation of drinking water fountains. The first fountain, installed in 2021, has prevented the use of over 90,000 single-use plastic bottles, while the second, installed in March 2025, is already reducing waste. These efforts promote reusable water bottles and reinforce the school's commitment to sustainable water use.

To deepen understanding of global water issues, the school hosted a Walk for Water event last May. Students walked 2 km to Oakfield Park while carrying 10kg water drums, mirroring the challenges many face accessing clean water daily. The activity offered a powerful, hands-on learning experience and helped spread awareness through student-led photo sharing on social media. Oakfield Park's emphasis on sustainability made it a fitting backdrop, supporting the committee's broader message of environmental responsibility.