

Environmental Review

2026/27

Print a copy of this Environmental Review, walk around your school, and note your answers and ideas with a pen or pencil. You can then scan this document as a single PDF and upload to your Eco-Schools Green Flag application.

- Give yourself a 'Y' for every 'yes' answer, an 'N' for every 'no', or leave it blank if the question is not relevant to your setting. You can do this digitally - just double-click in the centre of the corresponding circle.
- To calculate your score for each topic, count the number of 'Y's.
- At the end of every section there is a space to write down your thoughts and ideas for that topic.
- The Environmental Review doesn't have to be completed in one go. Take your time and use it as an opportunity to explore your school site and talk to other pupils and staff members.
- Don't worry if you have low scores on the Environmental Review, instead view any 'No' answers as inspiration for future projects!

Completed By

Add Name and Year Group

Dylan
Bodhi
Fia

Olivia A
Grace & Arlo
Tilly

Miss P



Championed by:



Biodiversity

Y/N

01

Do your grounds provide habitats and/or facilities to encourage insect life? For example, bug hotels, bee baths, log piles, rock piles, or leaf piles.



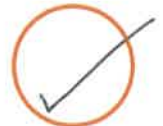
02

Do your grounds provide homes and support for birds and animals? For example, bird houses, bat boxes, hedgehog highways, or bird baths.



03

Do your grounds have bird, or other animal feeders and are they checked and topped up regularly?



04

Do your grounds have any dedicated wildflower, meadow, wildlife corridor, or rewilding areas to support biodiversity?



05

Are any plants in your grounds chosen specifically to support biodiversity? For example, bee-friendly lavender.



06

Do your grounds have a pond or mini-pond?



07

Do pupils have opportunities to map, observe, and record nature in your school grounds? For example, by using wildlife cameras or taking part in projects like RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch.



again -



08

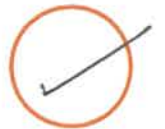
Are there any signs or QR codes around your school that show what plants, trees, or flowers are growing, or explain how your school is helping nature and wildlife?

Need to do again



09

In the previous twelve months, has your school fundraised for endangered animals or conservation projects?



10

During the last year, has your school provided advice to families on supporting biodiversity at home? For example, looking for Rainforest Alliance certified products whilst shopping, or instructions for creating homemade bug hotels?



Total Score

10

Notes

BOOM!

- Another dress up day.*
- Bird week + Photos!*



In August 2026, an animal charity thanked prison inmates in Jersey for helping to save hedgehogs' lives. During carpentry classes, they made and donated 20 feeding and nesting boxes from reclaimed pallet wood.



Energy

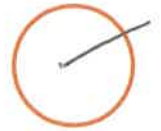
Y/N

- 01 Does your school have pupil energy monitors, who check that lights and other electronic devices are switched off when not in use during the daytime, and an adult member of staff responsible for checking overnight? 
- 02 Do classrooms in your school have posters, signs, or a traffic-light system that reminds pupils and staff to turn off electrical devices when not in use? 
- 03 Speak to your site manager, does your school have any renewable energy sources on site (such as solar panels, wind turbine, heat pump, biomass heating), or purchase energy from a renewable energy supplier? 
- 04 In classrooms, are windows kept free of displays and radiators free from blockages to maximise natural light and heat distribution? 
- 05 Do pupils work with staff to share information about your school's energy use? For example, by checking a smart meter, updating an energy display, or sharing data during assemblies. 
- 06 In the last twelve months, has your school planned an energy-free day, energy-saving week, or something similar? 
- 07 Did your school participate in Eco-Schools' Cut Your Carbon Campaign, which happens throughout November each year? 



08

Speak to your site manager, does your school follow government energy-efficiency guidelines for schools? For example, classroom temperatures set to 18°C.



09

Ask your school's site/ICT manager, do computers and the heating system in your school have automated switch off, and is this set no later than 6pm?



10

Ask your school's site manager, has your school building infrastructure been improved to save energy? For example, double+ glazed windows, insulation, motion-sensing lights, energy efficient lightbulbs, draft excluders etc.



Total Score

7/10

Notes

Sad times.

• Energy ^{day} ~~week~~? outside day?
no lights!



In August 2026, new government rules allowed plug-in solar panels to be sold in the UK. They can be installed more easily than rooftop solar panels, helping more people generate their own renewable energy.



Global Citizenship

Y/N

01

Has your school raised money for a charity or cause in the last twelve months, or donated to a local foodbank?



02

In the last twelve months, has your school collaborated with another school or organisation, such as a community group, place of worship, or business, on an environmental project?



03



Are young people allowed to take responsibility for planning fundraising events, or selecting which charities their fundraising supports?



04

Does your school take part in any global or national campaigns like Cut Your Carbon, Fairtrade Fortnight, or Earth Hour?



05

Does your school have links with any other schools in different countries?



06

In the past twelve months, have any young people in your school written to their local MP about an environmental issue?



07

Does your school celebrate diversity by organising events and education around religious/cultural holidays, or celebrating events like Black History Month and Pride?





08

Does your school celebrate its own diversity through displaying languages spoken in school, or organising events, celebrations, and learning opportunities that showcase the different cultures represented by pupils and staff members?



09

Are the UN Sustainable Development Goals displayed in your school and/or included in curriculum learning?



10

Does your school canteen offer food with ethical/green labels? For example, Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, or Red Tractor.



Total Score



Notes

To give the eldest ^{member} a week to organise by themselves?



In 2026, more than 30,000 volunteers travelled from across China to plant over 1 million trees in Minqin County, showing how people can work together to tackle environmental challenges and support communities – in this case preventing desertification.



Supported by:



Healthy Living

Y/N

01

Does your school teach young people how to grow fruit, vegetables, and herbs?



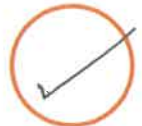
02

Speak to canteen staff, does your school ever use fresh, healthy produce grown on site as ingredients in school meals?



03

Does your school menu have plant-based options every day?



04

Are plant-based options encouraged at lunch times? For example, are they at the top of the menu, near the start of the queue, or labelled as planet-friendly?



05

Does your school regularly have meat-free days, or promote events like Veganuary?



06

Speak to canteen staff, does your school use seasonal produce to help reduce food miles?



07

Does your school canteen work with pupils to plan healthy, planet-friendly menu items?





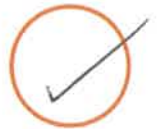
08

Does your school provide opportunities for pupils to discuss their thoughts, feelings, and concerns about climate change?



09

Does your school have a sensory garden, or other natural area, that helps pupils feel calm and relaxed whilst connecting with nature?



10

Does your school promote mental wellbeing through events like Mental Health Awareness Week and/or by teaching exercises such as mindfulness or yoga?



Total Score

7/10

Notes

We can't control the Canteen!



Bananas are the UK's top-selling fruit. However, they aren't the nation's favourite. In a YouGov poll, bananas came sixth, while strawberries were voted the nation's favourite.



Supported by:



To Honour Matilda

Litter

Y/N

01 Does your school have access to litter-picking equipment?



02 Have pupils litter-picked in their school grounds in the last twelve months?



03 Have pupils litter-picked in their local community in the last twelve months?



04 In the last twelve months, has your school extended its litter-picking activities beyond the school gates by involving families, local businesses, nearby schools, council representatives, or other community groups?



05 Does your school allow pupils to borrow litter-picking equipment to use with family members outside school hours?



06 Does your school separate recyclable litter during litter-picks?



07 Does your school have enough bins inside and outside the school building? No overflowing bins on site would suggest 'Yes'.





08

Have young people in your school created anti-litter posters and signs, or delivered an anti-litter assembly or campaign, in the past twelve months?



09

Does your school have appointed Litter Monitors?



10

Did your school participate in Keep Britain Tidy's Great Big School Clean during the last academic year?



Total Score



Notes

Litter monitors

Another litter pick around community.



Unfortunately, litter is a problem almost everywhere. Keep Britain Tidy surveyed more than 1,000 sites across the UK, in towns, cities, and the countryside, and found that around 9 in 10 contained litter.



Championed by:



Marine

Y/N

01 Speak to your headteacher, does your school have a policy that bans or limits the use of any single-use plastics, for example, glitter or laminating?



02 Speak to canteen staff, have they taken action to reduce the use of single-use plastics in your canteen?



03 Speak to your school's art department or lead, have they taken action to reduce the use of single-use plastics in their department?



04 Has your school shared ideas for plastic-free lunches with pupils or families during the last twelve months?



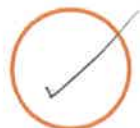
05 Does your school promote the use of refillable bottles, for example, with incentives, rewards, information, or reminders?



06 Does your school have refill stations for reusable bottles?



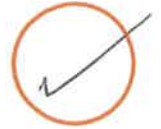
07 Has your school tried to make any of its events, celebrations, or school trips plastic free?





08

Has your school organised and completed a beach, river, or canal clean in the last twelve months?



09

Has your school created any displays, artworks, murals, or similar to raise awareness about plastic pollution?



10

In the past twelve months, have any pupils or staff completed an audit of your school to find out what single-use plastics are commonly used on site?



Total Score

8/10

Notes

- Audit needed but we don't use it!
- Art mural
- Beach clean again.



630,000 volunteers took part in the International Coastal Cleanup in 2025, the world's largest single-day ocean cleanup. Almost 14 million pieces of rubbish were removed from more than 15,000 miles of coastline and waterways, including 1.3 million plastic bottles.



School Grounds

Y/N

01

Does your school have a tiny forest, orchard, or group of trees on site?



02

Has your school planted trees or supported tree planting projects in the last twelve months?



03

Does your school have an outdoor learning and/or eating area?



04

Does your school have a gardening club, or does it offer gardening lessons?



05

Does your school have a greenhouse, polytunnel, or allotment area that pupils can use?



06

Does each class/year group in your school have a designated growing area?



07

Speak to your site manager, does your school participate in No Mow May, or deliberately leave any grassed boundaries uncut?





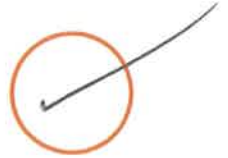
08

Speak to your site manager, does your school avoid using pesticides and peat-based compost?



09

Speak to your site manager or headteacher, has your school made any changes to improve its resilience to the impacts of climate change? For example, by installing SuDS or rain gardens, planting trees, or creating more shaded areas.



10

Speak to your headteacher, does your school have any plans or procedures in place to keep pupils safe during periods of extreme heat and heatwaves linked to climate change?



Total Score

10/10

Notes

BOOOM !



The Forest for Cornwall scheme launched in 2019 to help tackle climate change by planting trees in communities, farms, schools, and streets. Just seven years later, more than 2 million trees have been planted, and in August 2026 funding was secured to plant even more.



Transport

Y/N

01

Does your school support active travel by providing a secure, weather-protected area for storing bicycles and scooters?



02

Does your school car park have an electric vehicle charging point, or plans to install one?



03

In the past twelve months, has your school completed a walk to school week, or any other similar campaign?



04

Does your school track how pupils and staff travel to school each day and use findings to promote active travel options?



05

Does your school take part in any sustainable travel schemes like park 'n' stride, walking bus, or staff car sharing?



06

Does your school provide training or opportunities that encourage pupils to walk, cycle, scoot, or use other forms of sustainable transport safely and confidently?



07

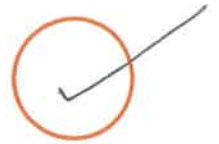
Has your school taught pupils and/or families about the impact of engine idling near school?





08

Does your school have a hedge, trees, or other vegetation around its boundaries to reduce air pollution in school?



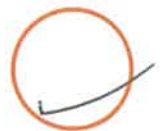
09

Is the road outside your school a 'School Street,' or has your school asked the council about making it one?



10

Do all school trips avoid airplane travel?



Total Score



Notes

We are a village school! we can't
not drive ~~anywhere~~



In June 2026 the UK Government announced plans to invest £4.5 billion in walking, wheeling, and cycling, including 5,000 new routes and 10,000 safer crossings. These new routes new routes will save households money, improve health, and cut carbon.



Championed by:



Waste

Y/N

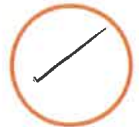
01

Does your school recycle any difficult-to-recycle items like batteries, pens, printer cartridges, or crisp packets?



02

Is your school's food and brown waste composted and, when possible, is this compost used in the school grounds?



03

In the past twelve months has your school hosted any second-hand sales or swap events e.g., clothing, books, revision guides?



04

Does your school collect and redistribute preloved uniform?



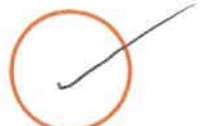
05

Does your school use any refillable products (for example, whiteboard markers, glue sticks, or soap dispensers) or do you sell any refillable products?



06

Are recycling bins clearly labelled with signs or posters showing what can and can't be recycled in school?



07

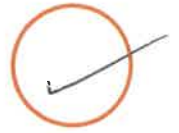
Are pupils aware of correct recycling practices? Spot-check three recycling bins in your school to find out.





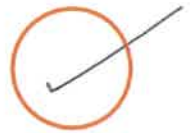
08

Does your school use recycled paper products like printer paper or toilet paper?



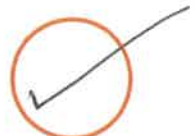
09

Has your school introduced measures to reduce its use of paper? This might be through printing on both sides, sending letters/homework electronically, adding a release code to the photocopier, limiting use of worksheets, or continuing to use exercise books across academic years.



10

Speak to your school's canteen staff, have they taken any action to reduce food waste in the last 12 months? For example, sharing data with pupils, a pre-order system, or offering smaller portion sizes.



Total Score



Notes

* tubs for gueststubs - responsible = Eco Council.

woohooo!



In March 2026, England changed its recycling rules to make recycling easier and more consistent. Now, recycling collections look more similar wherever you live, and all councils must provide food waste collections for households.



Water

Y/N

01 Does your school have any water-butts?



02 Speak to your site manager, does your school have a greywater recycling system in place to reuse water for flushing toilets, watering plants, or something else?



03 Are any planted areas in your school mulched to help the soil absorb rainwater and trap moisture?



04 Does your school use water-saving devices like reduced flush toilets, tap inserts, or sensor taps?



05 Do your school toilets have posters or signs reminding people to turn off taps after use?



06 Has your school shared water-saving tips with pupils or families (e.g. in newsletters or assemblies)?



07 In the past twelve months, has your school supported water charities or taken part in events like World Water Day?





08 Does your school have pupil water monitors?

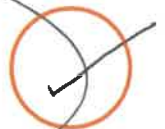
don't need



09 Speak to your site manager, does your school regularly check for water leaks through audits, meter readings, or other monitoring processes?



10 Does your school promote the responsible use of AI by raising awareness of its environmental impacts, including energy and water consumption?



Total Score

7/10

Notes

teachers need reminding!!

water themed week again.



By 2055, England could face a daily water shortage of 5 billion litres if we do not make changes to how we use and manage water. That's enough water to fill Wembley Stadium four and a half times every day. The shortfall is being driven by climate change and increasing demand for water.



Other

Y/N

01

Has your school used Count Your Carbon to calculate its carbon footprint in the last twelve months?



02

Ask your headteacher, does your school have a Climate Action Plan?



03

Has your school hosted an environmental visitor or taken part in an eco-themed trip in the last twelve months?



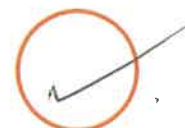
04

Have pupils in your school planned and delivered an environmentally-themed assembly in the previous twelve months?



05

Does your school share its environmental achievements online or in newsletters to inspire others?



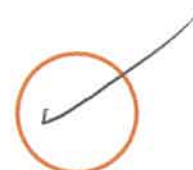
06

Is your school part of a Green Network and/or has it worked with any other schools on an environmental project in the previous twelve months?



07

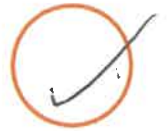
Does your school run an annual event focused on environmental awareness, such as a themed day or week of learning?





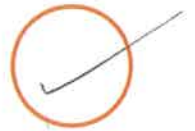
08

Does your school library have a section for environmental books?



09

Does your school's reward system recognise environmental action and achievements?



10

Do your school's core values include environmental responsibility or sustainability?



Total Score

8/10

Notes

A large rectangular area defined by a dashed orange border, intended for handwritten notes.



In spring 2026, electricity generated by wind and solar surpassed gas power globally for the first time, marking a major clean energy milestone. This achievement shows that when people, businesses, and governments work together, positive change is possible.

Our Results



Total Score



Positives

We want another black-out bus activity

Negatives

Travel !

Notes

check water butts .