

Sustainability at Amberley Primary School

Nurturing Innovation and Aspiration



Green Flag Award



We have recently been awarded our 'Green Flag' Award in the Summer 2019. There are 3 different awards that you can achieve.

- Bronze Award
- Silver Award
- Green Award



Green Flag Award run by Keep Britain Tidy

- 'The Eco-Schools Programme is pupil-led, involving hands-on learning that gets the whole school and the wider community involved in exciting environmental projects.'
- The Eco-Schools Programme provides free resources to schools for each of the Seven Steps to help the schools progress to the international Eco-School Green Flag award within 12 months of registration.

How we became an Eco School

- Amberley have managed to achieve 'Green Flag' status for a number of years and take pride in achieving our Eco Flag award.
- There are 7 different steps that have to be completed before achieving 'Green Flag' Status.



Step 1: Elect an eco committee

Your school needs an eco committee with at least one pupil from each year group. Pupils share a responsibility with adults for running meetings and keeping a record of meetings.

In Amberley we have 'Eco Warriors'. We asked children from Y3 – Y6 to complete Eco Warrior application forms.

Children in Y1 and Y2 are elected from their classes.

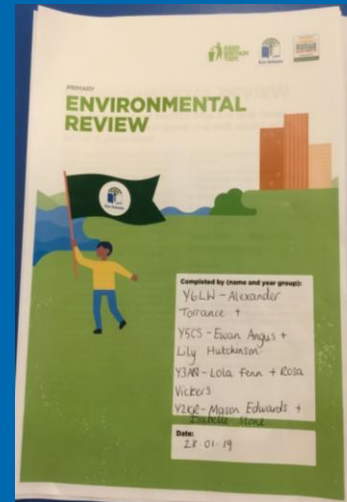
2019-20 Eco Warrior Application	
	
We are looking for new Eco Warriors to join our team! The Eco Warriors are the driving force behind our Eco work in school. You will be responsible for leading the planning and running of projects as well as spreading Eco messages to the rest of the school. Please complete the application below if you would like to join the 2019-20 Eco Warriors. Please return your application to Miss Reid by <u>24th September</u>.	
Name : _____	
Class : _____	
Why do you want to be a member of the Eco Warriors?	

The Eco Warriors are always thinking of ways to improve our school. What ideas do you have?	

Step 2: Complete an Environmental Review

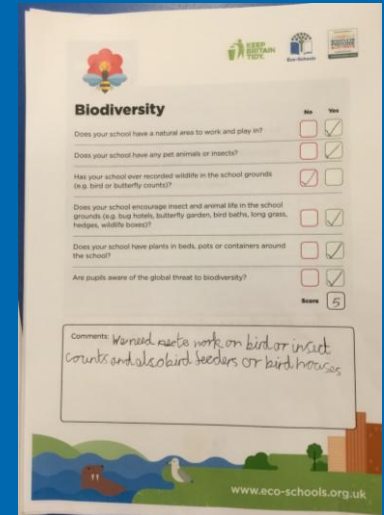
After we have elected our Eco Committee, we completed an environmental review with adult supervision.

Examples of the Environmental Review.



The cover of the 'ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW' form features a cartoon illustration of a person in a yellow shirt holding a flag on a green hill. The title 'ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW' is prominently displayed. Below the illustration, a box contains the following text:

Completed by (name and year group):
Y6LH - Alexander Torrance +
Y5CS - Ewan Angus + Lily Hutchinson
Y3AN - Lola Fenn + Rosa Vickers
Y2GE - Mason Edwards + Zakaria Stone
Date: 28.01.19



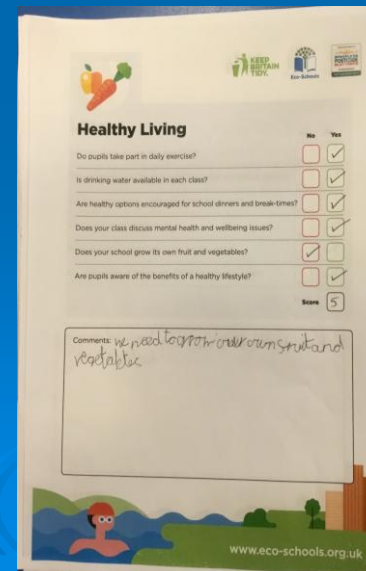
The 'Biodiversity' section of the form includes a table with 'No' and 'Yes' columns for various questions. The 'Yes' column is marked with checkmarks for all questions.

	No	Yes
Does your school have a natural area to work and play in?	☐	☒
Does your school have any pet animals or insects?	☐	☒
Has your school ever recorded wildlife in the school grounds (e.g. bird or butterfly counts)?	☒	☐
Does your school encourage insect and animal life in the school grounds (e.g. bug hotels, butterfly gardens, bird baths, frog grass, hedger, wildlife boxes)?	☐	☒
Does your school have plants in beds, pots or containers around the school?	☐	☒
Are pupils aware of the global threat to biodiversity?	☐	☒

Score: 5

Comments: We need to work on bird or insect counts and also bird seeders or bird houses

<https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/primary-pathway/seven-steps/environmental-review/>



The 'Healthy Living' section of the form includes a table with 'No' and 'Yes' columns for various questions. The 'Yes' column is marked with checkmarks for all questions.

	No	Yes
Do pupils take part in daily exercise?	☐	☒
Is drinking water available in each class?	☐	☒
Are healthy options encouraged for school dinners and break-times?	☐	☒
Does your class discuss mental health and wellbeing issues?	☐	☒
Does your school grow its own fruit and vegetables?	☒	☐
Are pupils aware of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle?	☐	☒

Score: 5

Comments: we need to grow our own fruit and vegetables

Step 3: Create an action plan

Using the results from our environmental review, we created 5 targets on areas which may need more work.

Action Plan

Eco-Schools Topic: Waste

Aim: To consider if we could encourage pupils and staff to use less paper towels. To recycle a variety of materials (e.g. books, clothes, shoes etc.)

Actions: We decided that we could try to encourage children to use less paper towels rather than buy hand dryers for people to use as it would cost too much money. We also thought that we could think about maybe a swap shop after the Easter holidays which could be run by the Eco Warriors.

How long will it take? 4-6 weeks to organise our swap shop and to let the rest of the school know about what we are thinking of doing so they can contribute.

Who is responsible? Eco Warriors
Miss Reid

How we will monitor progress: -Consider the amount of paper towels being used and if there is a need for a higher amount that there has been in the past.

Evaluation: 4 weeks

Eco-Schools Topic: Water

Aim: To have access to the school water meter to take readings.

Actions: To ask Mr Gutteridge if we could have access to the school water meter to read the readings over time and see if there is an increase/decrease.

How long will it take? -Progressive over time, once every 2 weeks.

Who is responsible? Eco Warriors
Miss Reid

How we will monitor progress: -Every 2 weeks for a total of 1 term.

Evaluation: After 1 term of taking readings.

www.eco-schools.org.uk

Date: 29.01.19

Action Plan

Eco-Schools Topic: Energy

Aim: We are going to reduce the amount of energy that we use in our school by ensuring that all lights are turned off in rooms when they are not being used.

Actions: - The Eco Warriors decided that we need some Eco Warriors to check around at lunch time to turn off all lights in rooms which are not occupied.
- The Eco Warriors also decided that they will turn each week some of all the computers in the IT suite on a Friday afternoon each week so that they are switched off for the weekend.

How long will it take? -Team change our school.
-Who is responsible?
-Eco Warriors
-Mon Lunchtime-10
-Tue Lunchtime-10
-Wed Lunchtime-10
-Thurs Lunchtime-10
-Fri Lunchtime-10
-If a full switch off-10 then 10 Eco Warriors.

How we will monitor progress: -Tick on the sheet in Miss Reid's Classroom if the job has been completed each day.

Evaluation: Evaluate after 1 term to see if we have made a difference.

Eco-Schools Topic: Litter

Aim: We would like to reduce the amount of litter that we have on our school grounds. We noticed that some of our bins need to be emptied more regularly.

Actions: After a discussion with our KS2 Eco Warriors they found that there are not enough bins on the outside of school. They also found that the bins that are in the grounds of the school are sometimes overflowing.
We decided that being part in the Great British Spring Clean will allow us to take part in a litter pick around our school grounds.

How long will it take? -Litter Pick is organised for the 4th April.

Who is responsible? Eco Warriors
Miss Reid

How we will monitor progress: -Eco Warriors to observe where the most litter is being left on their walk into school, we can target specific areas.

Evaluation: -After the GBS C

Eco-Schools Topic: Marine

Aim: To find out if the fish used in our meals is caught sustainably. To reduce the amount of plastic used by pupils and staff.

Actions: We are going to ask the fish cook if she knows if the fish that we use in our meals is caught sustainably.
We are going to make some powerful posters to put around the school when plastic is not recycled.

How long will it take? - Choose 10 Eco Warriors to ask the fish cook if the fish that we use is caught sustainably.
- Powerful Posters - Eco Warriors are to make these for 3 weeks time to bring to our next meeting.
-Who is responsible?
-Eco Warriors

How we will monitor progress: -Ask for feedback from pupils and staff to see if our posters have made an impact to change their thinking.

Evaluation: -Evaluate feedback from our powerful posters in 5 weeks time.

www.eco-schools.org.uk

Step 4: Links to the Curriculum

To achieve the Green Flag award, your school must include environmental issues throughout the curriculum. There must be at least 3 different areas covered in your curriculum which must be evident in planning, school work, displays etc.

At Amberley, we include environmental issues in a variety of different lessons ranging throughout every year group in our school.

Some examples are ...

Year 2 – 'Islands' Topic. We look at the sustainability of natural resources and using these resources to survive on a desert island.

Year 4 – 'Rainforest' Topic. We look at Global Citizenship. We teach the children to act locally, think globally in relation to saving the rainforest. We wrote our own advertising campaigns to stop people buying products with palm oil from the rainforest.

Year 5 - 'Planet Earth—Why should I care?' topic, we concentrate on the effect plastic has on our oceans and marine life. We discuss pollution and what we can do to stop marine life being harmed by plastic pollution in our oceans. We create 'plastic turtles' from recycled plastic bags at the end of the project!

Step 5: Informing and Involving

The next step is to continue to update your Eco Board with your results and action plan.

It is important that this is in a place for everyone to access. It should include all Eco Warrior members, meeting minutes, action plan and environment review.

It is the Eco Warriors job to ensure that other members of the school are aware of the areas we are focussing on. This is a great way to encourage confidence and independence for the children involved.



Step 6: Monitoring and Evaluation

The Eco Warriors monitor the effectiveness of our chosen Eco-Schools topic actions, this can be through data collection, before and after photographs etc. Evidence and data collected can then be used to help develop our topics further. This can also relate to other areas of the curriculum. (Maths and Science lessons)



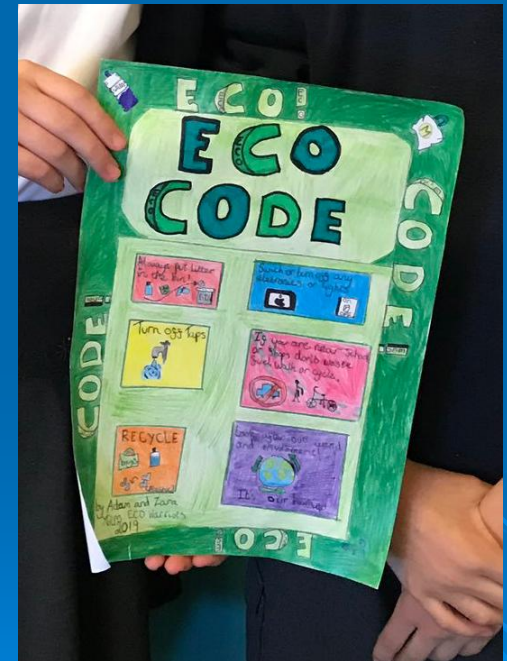
Step 7: Eco Code

The last step is for the Eco Warriors to create an Eco code.

We had time to discuss what we would like on our Eco code and time was given for Eco Warrior to create an Eco Code.

This is our most up to date Eco Code.

They are placed all around school to encourage staff, pupils, visitors and parents / carers to become more environmentally friendly.



After the steps have been completed ...

- Continue to work on school Eco action plan.
- Assessor Visit.



Eco Warriors

- Each class from Year 1 – Year 6 has two Eco Warriors representatives.
- Has included teachers, governors and the caretaker.
- Meet every half term (at least)
- The team help put together the agenda, make sure everyone has a voice and give feedback to their classes.
- Has a Minute taker.
- On a day to day basis, the Eco Team help by reminding each class of key Eco jobs including :
 - Switching off lights
 - Turning off taps
 - Shutting doors

The Ten Topics of Green Flag Award...

- There are 10 different topics which must be addressed throughout eco work in school and our curriculum. This must be evident in my file.



The Ten Topics of Green Flag Award...

Water

Waste

ENERGY

Healthy Living

LITTER

Marine

School Grounds

Transport

Global Citizenship

Biodiversity

LITTER

- Taking part in 'The Great British Spring Clean'.
- 'Eco' golden time club which take part in weekly litter picks of our school grounds. Children are enthusiastic and always want to take part in this golden time club.



Healthy Living

- Daily Mile
- Two hours of PE a week
- After school clubs (Zumba, Multi Skills, Karate)
- Healthy eating campaigns from local council
- Sports Week
- Children's Mental Health week



Waste

- Intervention Shed
- Tinkering Tables in EY
- Green and white bins in every classroom (recycling only)
- O'Brien's recycling



Water

- This is an area we continue to work on.
- We have water saving devices in the toilets and water butts in the garden.



- We also have notices everywhere.

Biodiversity

- Outdoor Classroom
- Field



Part of the garden is a wildlife area with dens.



Our bug hotel

Global Citizenship

- Linked throughout curriculum from Nursery – Y6.
- Host school for a group of Chinese students.
- Local and national charities.



School Grounds

School Garden which is outside of the Y6 classrooms.

- Daily Mile
- Use of Outdoor classroom
- EY Outdoor learning
- Equipment in KS1/2 yards.
- ‘Outdoor Classroom day’



Transport

- Bikeability - Y4
- Local council – assembly to encourage less traffic around our school.
- Walk to school campaign
- Scooter and bike pods



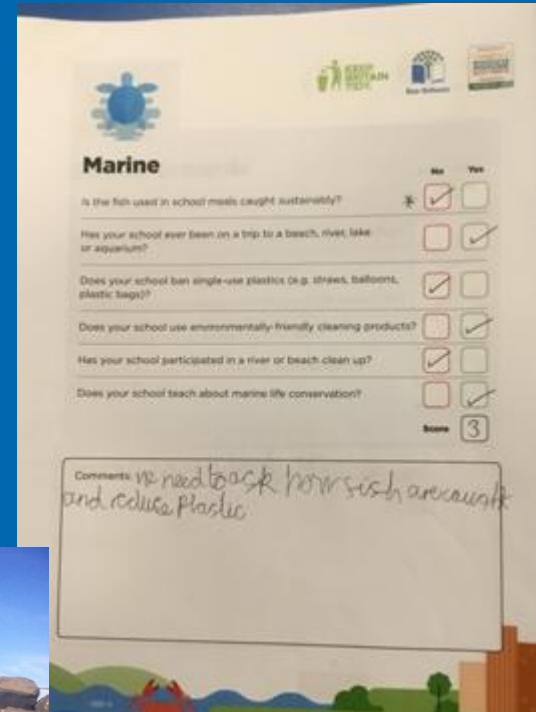
ENERGY

- 'Electric Monitors'
- Wind turbine
- Solar panels
- 'Switch Off Fortnight'



Marine

- Weetslade Country Park (Y2 and Y3)
- Beach and Lake trips
- Curriculum links



The form is titled 'Marine' and features a blue turtle logo. It includes five questions with 'Yes' and 'No' checkboxes. The 'Yes' boxes are checked for all questions. At the bottom, there is a 'Score' field with the number '3' and a 'Comments' section with handwritten text.

	Yes	No
Is the fish used in school meals caught sustainably?	☒	☐
Has your school ever been on a trip to a beach, river, lake or aquarium?	☐	☒
Does your school ban single-use plastics (e.g. straws, balloons, plastic bags)?	☒	☐
Does your school use environmentally friendly cleaning products?	☐	☒
Has your school participated in a river or beach clean up?	☒	☐
Does your school teach about marine life conservation?	☐	☒

Score **3**

Comments: we need to ask how fish are caught and reduce plastic



Assessor Visit – Summer 2019

When the assessor came, he: -

- Was taken on a tour by the Eco Warrior team
- Was shown the file
- Spoke to the children



Thank you for listening

