



Eco Policy

Approved: April 2024

To be reviewed: April 2025

Introduction

Raddlebarn Primary School is committed to educating its pupils about caring for and respecting the environment and developing sensible citizens that are able to make valuable decisions. The Eco Council at Raddlebarn Primary School has a key role in achieving this and represent the whole school community.

Purpose of Raddlebarn Primary School's Eco Council

At Raddlebarn Primary School, we aim to look after and care for the environment we are all part of. The Eco Council is mainly driven by the pupils with some support from the Eco Coordinator. The Eco Council consists of pupils from Year 2 upwards, who are chosen via an application process.

Our key aims are as follows:

- To ensure a whole school approach for caring for the environment
- To give pupils responsibilities and promote teamwork
- To develop and promote an awareness of environmental issues
- To develop an awareness of global issues
- To develop a whole school approach in promoting environmental awareness that includes pupils, all staff, governors, parents and members of the local community
- To help create a shared understanding of what is needed to run a school in ways that respect and enhances the environment
- To help develop pupils' decision making skills
- To link environmental issues with the curriculum as well as the daily running life of the school
- The Eco Council need to involve and inform the wider community of their actions
- The Eco Council produce an Eco Code which is agreed with the rest of the school which reflects their aims and ethos.

Awards

Raddlebarn Primary School is a member of the Eco Schools programme. This is an international initiative that encourages pupils to engage with the environment and sustainable development issues. The Eco Schools programme has three levels of awards: Bronze, Silver and the Green Flag award. There is a criteria set for each of the awards that schools need to meet in order to achieve the award. Raddlebarn Primary School has achieved the Bronze, Silver and Green Flag Award.

The structure of the Eco Schools programme is made up of the following seven elements:

- The Eco Committee
- The Environmental Review
- The Action Plan
- Curriculum
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Involve and inform the wider community
- Eco Code

The Role of the Eco Coordinator

- To update the policy
- To complete action plans for each academic year to contribute to the school improvement plan
- To participate in the Eco Schools Scheme
- To apply for the awards
- To keep staff informed of actions and new developments
- To co-ordinate focus environment events
- To keep a portfolio of evidence of action areas
- To co-ordinate / provide staff INSET
- To involve outside agencies.

The Role of the Eco Council

- To assist the coordinator in completing an environmental review at the start of each academic year
- To assist the coordinator in writing action plans based on the environmental review
- To assist in working towards chosen action points
- To attend Eco Council meetings
- To feedback to their peers on actions and developments

Inclusion

All pupils, regardless of race, gender, culture or disability shall have the opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of caring for their environment and developing a caring attitude. Raddlebarn Primary School will promote equal opportunities.

Health and Safety

Health and safety issues will be considered in all activities and relate to the School's health and safety policy.