



St. Andrew's College Green Code

“Litter is Bitter”



Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme, environmental management system and award scheme that promotes and acknowledges long-term, whole school action for the environment.

Unlike a once-off project, it is a long-term programme that introduces participants (students, teachers, parents and the wider community) to the concept of an environmental management system.

However, Green-Schools is far more than just an environmental management system. It fosters a strong sense of citizenship and leadership among participants that spreads far outside the school into the wider community. It also promotes a strong sense of teamwork among teachers, students and the wider community to reach a common high level goal, of achieving Green Flag status. It flattens and democratises school management structures. It brings children into the decision-making process and makes them responsible for their decision and actions.

The aim of Green-Schools 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. Schools that have successfully completed all the elements of the programme are awarded the 'Green-Flag'. This award has now become a well-recognised Eco-Label. The award has to be renewed every two years.

Green Schools in St Andrew's College

The Green Schools' Committee have been working hard for the past year to raise awareness of the environment, and the responsibilities we have to it throughout the school. With the help of students and staff alike, surveys on energy wastage and bin numbers have been designed, carried out, and displayed on the Green Schools' noticeboard on the main corridor between House Area 1 and 2. From digging through bins to discussing green advertising campaigns, the committee members have completed a detailed litter and waste review and have come up with a plan for our school.

In January of this year, the committee carried out a Litter Review, something which is essential in order to apply for a Green Flag. This involved identifying and mapping the 'Litter Blackspots' in the school which are areas throughout the school which are worst affected by litter. This, along with a Waste Audit detailing the amount of waste disposed of by the school, was used to create an Action Plan for the school to follow.

Some Members of the Green School Committee



Our Goals and Progress to date

The goals of the committee are to: reduce the amount of waste going to landfill by 10%, to identify the areas which are worst affected by litter, to promote awareness of the environment, and to carry out monthly reviews of litter and waste material.

So far, the committee has managed to increase the number of bins present in the school, held a 'Green Day' (during which events were run to raise environmental awareness), and has also been working hard to inform both the school population and the local community as to the importance of

the environment. If you want to get in touch with the committee, with any ideas or suggestions that you may have to improve our environmental sustainability, our email address is greenschools@st-andrews.ie. The Green School committee normally meets every second Tuesday at lunch time in House Area 2. Keep an eye on the noticeboard for information on the next meeting.

Green School Noticeboard



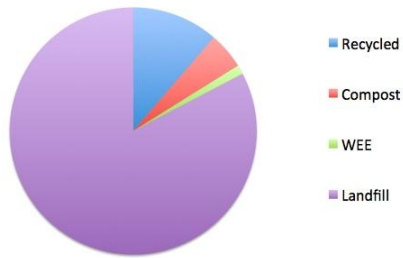
Students from Years 1-6 have been involved at every level to help us pursue our aim to be a Green School, as have all the College staff, and with continued teamwork we can definitely achieve our goals. Recently the Committee has just won the Neat Streets Award. An Taisce were highly impressed with our Green Schools Programme and Action Plan.

Action Plan

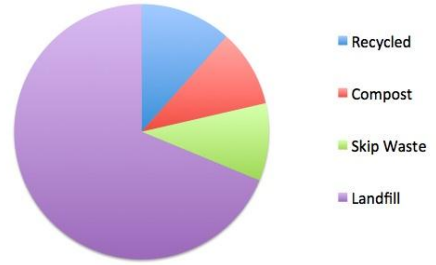
Completed	On Going	To be Done
Increased the recycling rate from 17% to 34%	Monthly bin audits to check if the correct material is going in each bin	Increase the recycling rate to 45%
Install recycling and composting bins in the canteen	Raising awareness of environmental issues through speakers, posters and assemblies.	Hold a Spring cleaning day in the Spring term
Install recycling bins in classrooms	Reduction of the amount of waste being sent to landfill	Install more recycling bins in various areas around the school
Identified the litter blackspots within the school	Monthly review of blackspots to check for improvements	Set up recycling areas in school for batteries and Phones
Raise awareness of the litter and waste through presentations at assemblies and guest speakers		Set up a cleaning rota system in the school for students to take more ownership of the litter within the school
Reduction in the level of photocopying		
Held a Green Day in school		

We are already well on our way to being environmentally friendly, and the support of the College, and the local community, will mean that we'll get there sooner!

Where St. Andrew's College's Waste ends up



**St. Andrew's College
Waste 2012
17% of Waste Recycled**



**St. Andrew's College
Waste 2013
34% of Waste Recycled**