

Welcome to the **December Sustainable Schools Leicester eBulletin**.

We have lots of exciting events and training planned for the next few months so read on to find out more!

We hosted four Eco Roadshows throughout November – many thanks to all the school who hosted, to our wonderful workshop providers and to everyone who came along and took part!

Upcoming events and competitions:

World Soil Day is on Friday 5th December

Deadline for submissions for our January Newsletter = Friday 19th December



Eco-Schools Roadshows at Sir Jonathan North, Castle Mead Academy, Rushey Mead Academy and Millgate School.

Do take care and, as always, if you need any help or support email or contact us.

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Follow us on Social Media

The Sustainable Schools Team have their own social media channels where you can keep up to date with all things related to sustainability in schools.



[EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.youtube.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)



[EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)



schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools



SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk

Eco Schools training - upcoming dates in 2026:

Are you wanting to find out about Eco-Schools and how your school can gain their Green Flag Award?

Do you want to find out about national and local environmental events and projects to help you achieve the award?

Do you want to get the award with Merit or Distinction?

Are you wanting to connect with other school staff in Leicester schools and support each other to gain your Eco-Schools Green Flag Award?

If the answer to any of these questions is “Yes”, then come along and find out more!

- Session 2 – Friday 23 January 2026, 1:00-3:00pm – Going for Merit or Distinction
- Session 3 – Thursday 30 April 2026 1:00-3:30pm – Completing the application and planning for next year



These sessions will be in person, with venues TBC.

Click the link or use the QR code to complete the form: [Eco-School Training Sign Up](#)

Carbon Literacy Project – upcoming training dates

In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency. We are working to reduce carbon with the aim of the city becoming zero carbon. In order to raise awareness of the climate emergency, we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff in becoming Carbon Literate. By the end of 2025, the DfE have said that each school will have a sustainability lead who will have taken part in Carbon Literacy Training. Any school staff, governors, and managers can take part.



In-Person training: Friday 30th January 2026, 9am – 4pm at City Hall, Leicester.

Virtual training: Tuesdays 14th, 21st and 28th April 2026, 4-6pm (all 3 sessions needed)

To sign up to one of the training, please complete the [eform](#) or scan the QR code →

Cost is £50 per person for school staff / governors from Leicester City schools or £70 for non-school staff and staff outside of Leicester City. This includes the individual and course accreditation fees from the Carbon Literacy Project.



FREE assemblies and workshops on waste management, reduction and recycling for Leicester Schools

Did you know Leicester City Council's Waste Management team offer FREE assemblies or bespoke workshops on waste reduction and recycling for Leicester Schools. They offer a range of activities tailored to your school for all things recycling and waste related, including assemblies, workshops and classroom presentations, tailored to your needs and covering a range of topics.

For further information on the FREE activities we can provide please contact Kimberley Tilley, Service Development Officer (Waste Management), Leicester City Council - kimberley.tilley@leicester.gov.uk or [0116 454 6742](tel:01164546742)



Get ready for Leicester's 9th Grow Your Own Grub Mealbarrow Competition

Leicester's Grow Your Own Grub Mealbarrow competition is back and is a great way to encourage food growing in the school community. Coming up in 2026, we have chosen a 'rainbow theme' for the



event, meaning you need to choose a rainbow-themed link and base your menu and food growing on that! Take it in whichever direction you wish and you might reach the pot of gold at the end!

Expressions of interest will open in January. Keep an eye out for our January newsletter for more information on how to enter and take part!

Did you know that thanks to Active Travel England, your school could be eligible to take part in WOW – the walk to school challenge - for free?

[WOW – the walk to school challenge](#) is a pupil-led initiative from UK charity, Living Streets. Pupils self-report how they get to school every day on the WOW Travel Tracker with those who walk, wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride at least once a week awarded collectible WOW badges.

WOW has been helping to reduce congestion and pollution at thousands of schools for 20 years. Last academic year, the Walk to School Outreach project helped create 17.8 million new walking journeys and removed over 3.4 million car km from the roads at peak times.



Visit livingstreets.org.uk/WOW or email cate.dearn@livingstreets.org.uk to find out more and to see if your school is eligible. *(There are still some funded places available for Leicester City new schools/schools in that have not taken part in recent years. We can check eligibility when you get in touch. Please also note that spaces on this funding stream are limited and are being allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so do get in touch at the earliest opportunity if you are interested to find out more)*

Good Life Schools – only one place left!

Good Life Schools is a student-led programme for **secondary schools**, working with young people to reimagine ways of living and learning that are good for us, and good for the planet. The programme empowers young people to lead projects on issues they care about, building leadership, teamwork and communication skills. Schools will receive a pack of resources to guide a group of students through a changemaking journey over 10x 40-minute meetings.

**Good Life
Schools**

Prioritising wellbeing. Connecting communities. Creating change.

Schools joining the programme in the 2025/2026 academic year (to start in January 2026) will also receive:

- **£2000 of funding** for Good Life School projects and to cover staff time
- Free teacher training session for your school staff (1-2 hours)
- Free green skills workshops from local community organisations on request
- Invitation to the online Good Life Schools National Summit in the spring term (20 mins)
- Invitation to an in-person Celebration Event with other schools in the summer term (half day)
- Ongoing support from a local Community Engagement Lead

For more information and to sign up, email laura.brown@globalactionplan.org.uk.

There is only **one space left** so apply soon so as not to miss out on this amazing opportunity!

Free Tree For Schools Packs – Woodland Trust

Apply for free trees available for schools and communities – there are several different packs to choose from. When you know what you want and where you will plant them, fill out an application form. Applications close mid January, and trees will be delivered in March 2026. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.



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