

# Schools news

## January 2020



Welcome to the January Leicester Schools newsletter. Where did the Christmas break go? Happy New Year! Last term we had some fantastic events including our Eco-Roadshow and the Eco-Schools National Awards. This term our focus shifts to the Climate Emergency consultation with the Young Peoples' Climate Assembly in January, Carbon Literacy Training for students and teachers as well as Green Flag Accreditation. **As always get in touch if you need any support, Lee and Amy.**

### What is Eco-Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Environmental Education Team based in the Energy and Sustainability Team that works with schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do.

As well as one-to-one support, schools are able to engage through termly #EcoTeachMeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration events and can keep up to date through a dedicated Twitter account, monthly eBulletins and termly newsletters.

The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. Learning outside the classroom (LOTC) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOTC provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.



### How to find out more

Lee Jowett & Amy Peace  
Environmental Education Team

Phoenix House, King Street, Leicester LE1 6RN

✉ [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)

🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](http://schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools)

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

📘 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.facebook.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)

☎ 0116 454 2271 / 454 4543



### Climate Emergency Consultation Pack for Schools

We are developing a pack for primary schools to use so that they can be involved in the Climate Emergency consultation. If you would like a copy of the resources to help us get your pupils input on this very important matter please email [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk) ASAP. The deadline for consultation returns is the 9 February 2020

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

## Eco-School Awards

Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at [www.eco-schools.org.uk/register](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk/register)

There are 3 levels of award: Bronze, Silver and Green Flag which were **updated in September 2018**.

At **Bronze** level your school has set up an Eco-committee, carried out a review, created an action plan for three topics and shared this with the whole school.

At **Silver** level your school has done the above plus involved the whole school and wider community and carried out monitoring and evaluation for three in-depth pieces of work on three of the ten topics. You have also identified where environmental issues are covered in the curriculum.

At **Green Flag Award** status, your school has done all of the above plus carried out in-depth project work for three of the ten topics and developed an Eco-Code which reflects the topics you have worked on.

**Bronze and Silver are self-certified** online. For **Green Flag**, schools submit evidence online and are visited by an external assessor at a mutually agreed time.



We now have 40 Green Flag Eco-Schools in Leicester which puts us in second place nationally. The top authorities are below (the top 3 have similar numbers of schools). *Watch out Wirral we are after number 1!*

Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council	47
Leicester City Council	40
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council	22

*Since August 2019*

### **Recently registered or re-engaged**

*Castle Mead Academy  
Jameah Girls Academy  
Judgemeadow Community College  
Oaklands School  
Taylor Road Primary School*

### **Silver**

*Abbey Mead Primary Academy  
Braunstone Community Primary School  
Ellesmere College  
Mowmacre Hill Primary Academy  
St Barnabas C of E Primary School  
Tudor Grange Samworth Academy  
Woodstock Primary Academy*

### **Green Flag Award**

*Leicester Islamic Academy*

**Correct as of 03/01/2020**

## Newsletter

Our newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is Friday 17 April 2020. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo and contact details e.g. name and email address to: [eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:eco-schools@leicester.gov.uk)

## Welcome Amy

Graduate Project Officer Amy started at the end of the year. She is a graduate in Environmental Science BSc with The Open University.



Prior to joining Leicester City Council, she completed placements at the Field Studies Council and an ecological surveying company. With a background in catering, she is also passionate about tasty and sustainable food! She will be working alongside Lee to educate and inspire the younger generation of Leicester.

# #EcoTeachMeet Leicester

## Tuesday 11 February 2020



**New College, Glenfield Road,  
Leicester, LE3 6DN**

**Tuesday 11 February 2020 4.00-5.30pm**  
*Refreshments from 3.30pm*

**Presentations from colleagues on the impact of environmental education, projects and activities**

If you would like to present, please complete the Eventbrite presenter booking or get in touch

All school staff welcome! Book your place now:

[WinterEcoTeachMeet](#)

If you would like more information please contact Lee Jowett or Amy Peace, Environmental Education Team

[Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@Leicester.gov.uk) 0116 454 2271

[Amy.Peace@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Peace@Leicester.gov.uk) 0116 454 4543



SCAN ME

# Carbon Literacy Training



In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency. We are working to develop a climate emergency programme of action to reduce carbon with aim of the city becoming zero carbon.

In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff and students to become carbon literate. This one day course will enable participants to be carbon literate and support them deliver their own course back in school.

**Training: Friday 28 February 2020 9am-4pm**  
**Location: City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ**

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

**Who would benefit from this project:** All school staff with an interest in becoming carbon literate, especially those involved in teaching about climate change and the climate emergency in Years 5 and 8.



## Why participate?

- Gain a **better understanding of how climate change will affect you and those around you**
- **Fully funded** accreditation
- Acquire knowledge and skills to develop your own responses to lowering your carbon footprint, and the carbon footprint of others
- Gain knowledge of delivering a course about basic climate change science to your students
- Help to enable students to become **carbon literate**

## Your commitments

- Attend **training** in February 2020
- **Become an accredited Carbon Literate accredited and complete feedback** about your experience
- Create at least **one significant action, as an individual**, to reduce your own personal carbon footprint.
- Create at **least one significant action involving other people** to reduce the collective footprint of your workplace, community or place of education.
- **Encourage your school to participate in carbon literacy** either by delivering training yourself or arranging for Leicester City Council to deliver in-house



Funding kindly  
provided by the NAEE

This project is **free and open**  
**to all school staff**

# Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020

Deadline for  
school entry  
15 June 2020

Monday 29 June 2020 • City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester

Celebrate the work that your school has completed this year by attending the annual Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration. Bring along up to 5 students to display your Eco-Schools and/or your Food for Life project. Receive your Food for Life award as well as the Healthier Air for Schools Award.



Schools can display 2 Eco-Schools topics, 1 of which can include your Food for Life project. As a reminder, the Eco-Schools topics are:

- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Litter
- Waste
- Transport
- Water
- School Grounds
- Healthy Living
- Global Citizenship
- Marine

Entries for the Eco-School Awards will be categorised by the school's level of Eco-School award rather than by topic.

Food for Life awards will be judged separately and will be a demonstration of work completed so far on the Food for Life journey.

All schools will also be entered into the:

- Judge's Special Award
- Eco-factor Award (voted by students)

The event will run from 9.30am – 2.15pm.

*Lunch will be provided (dietary requirements nearer the time)*

Schools will be asked to provide brief information about their display before the day.

For more information and to book your school place contact:

Amy Peace, Leicester City Council  
[amy.peace@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:amy.peace@leicester.gov.uk) 0116 454 4543

Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life  
[ldidier@soilassociation.org](mailto:ldidier@soilassociation.org) 07718 570945

Healthier  
**AIR**  
for Leicester



# Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration 2020

Monday 29 June 2020 • City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester

## Additional Food for Life information

You are invited to attend this event to demonstrate the work you have completed so far on your Food for Life Journey.



You can showcase work towards your Bronze or Silver award or you can show a way you have improved an area of the following in school:

- How you used Food for Life to raise attainment
- How Food for Life has been integrated across the school in a whole school approach
- Increased school meal take up
- The good work of your SNAG and pupil voice
- Show the ethos of healthy eating across the school
- Show the improvement in cooking in the curriculum
- Food growing in school
- Demonstrate how you improved the dining room environment

If you would like to achieve Bronze or Silver by the time this event takes place please contact Lisa Didier. If you would like to display your work from the above categories, then a Certificate will be presented for your work and you will also be achieving criteria B4.2 for their bronze award "we share Food for Life learning with local schools, the wider community and other partners".



Lisa Didier, Soil Association Food for Life  
[ldidier@soilassociation.org](mailto:ldidier@soilassociation.org) 07718 570945

# Carbon Literacy Offer for Schools

In February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a climate emergency. We are working to develop a climate emergency programme of action to reduce carbon with aim of the city becoming zero carbon. In order to raise awareness through the community of Leicester we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting university students to become carbon literate trainers who will deliver training to school students to make them carbon literate. This exciting project is being delivered in the 2019-20 academic year.

We are offering free training to all primary and secondary students in Leicester City. The project is primarily aimed at Y5 in junior/primary and Y8 in secondary schools, however other year groups can be considered.

The training takes place during a normal school day and a whole class can participate at once. The training will be delivered by Lee and Amy along with university students from DMU and the University of Leicester. You just need to provide a classroom and access to ICT.

The sessions need to take place between late March and July 2020.

## Carbon Literacy Project



### How to find out more

Amy Peace

☎ 0116 454 4345

✉ [Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk)



*Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics including energy and transport*



## School Cartoon Competition

FREE TO ENTER - SIMPLE TO RUN  
OPEN TO ALL SCHOOLS - SUITABLE FOR YEARS 4 TO 7

### SCHOOL CARTOON COMPETITION!

ILLUSTRATE THE TRUE STORY OF EKARI THE BABY ELEPHANT

GREAT PRIZES INCLUDING  
250 FREE YOUNG VETS CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

- Can be used towards accreditation for your next Eco Schools or Roots and Shoots Award
- Links to KS2 and KS3 Geography Curriculum

COMING SOON

CLICK BELOW TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST!  
Or contact us at [YOUNGVETSCLUB@WVS.ORG.UK](mailto:YOUNGVETSCLUB@WVS.ORG.UK)

Worldwide Veterinary Services is a registered charity. Registered office: 100, The Quadrant, Leicester, Leicestershire, LE1 7DZ. Incorporated in the United Kingdom.

### What is the competition all about?

We would like the children in your school to illustrate a story board for our next kids magazine explaining how Ekari, a baby elephant in Myanmar, was rescued after being snared by poachers. The winning entry will have their work illustrated professionally and published in our summer 2020 magazine

The competition can be completed as a club activity, in lessons, tutor time or as homework. We will give you everything you need to launch the competition. This will include a power point to show the children which tells Ekari's story and explains simply how the competition works. We will send templates that the children should draw on, notes for teachers and all other documentation.

Materials will be available to download from Monday 13th January 2020

Deadline to participate 27 March 2020



*Supports the Eco-Schools global citizenship topic*

# Dates for your diary – Eco events



Event	Event Summary	Further details (date/time/location)
#EcoTeachMeets	#EcoTeachMeets are a termly opportunity to share an activity which you have done or find out about exciting activities and projects in Leicester, as well as nationally.	<b>Tuesday 11 February 2020, 4.00pm - 5.30pm</b> at New College Leicester, Glenfield Road, Leicester LE3 6DN  <b>Tuesday 5 May 2020, 4.00-5.30pm</b> at Nether Hall School, Keyham Lane West, Leicester LE5 1RT
<b>Air Quality Education CPD – Primary and Secondary Teachers</b>	This half day course will give delegates the skills and knowledge to deliver exciting and relevant science lessons around <b>brand new</b> innovative Air Quality Education from Leicester City Council.	<b>10 March 2020, 1.30pm-3.30pm</b> at Sandfield Close Primary School, Sandfield Close, Leicester LE4 7RE
<b>Litter Less Campaign 2019</b>	Participate in the city wide Litter Less campaign with Keep Britain Tidy as part of their national Great British Spring Clean campaign	<b>Celebration Event 22 April 2019 (Earth Day!)</b> Abbey Park – afternoon (exact time to be confirmed)
<b>Grandparent Gardening Week</b>	A great opportunity to invite, grandparents, parents and the community to help in school with your garden	<b>w/c 27th April 2020</b> Food for Life national event, further details to follow
<b>Eco-Schools and Food for Life Celebration event</b>	An opportunity to showcase the fantastic work which Leicester Schools have done over the academic year. Now in its sixth year, it is a real treat!	<b>Monday 29 June 2020, all day</b> City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ



*Supports the Eco-Schools awards as part of sharing good practice and finding out what other schools are doing*

Ready Set Ride - Reception and Year 1 - 5-week programme in school. I bring all the equipment. 10 children for roughly 20 – 30 minutes depending on school size. Developing the children’s balance and coordination and building throughout the weeks to hopefully getting them onto a pedal bike. Based on the playground but would need indoor space in case bad weather. **1 support staff required.**

Go Ride – Year 5 or 6 – 5-week programme in schools. 15 children for 45 minutes each. Either a full day or half a day. Working on skills on the bike, basics to start with and progressing through the weeks. This is brilliant to work towards School Games or just to give the children a chance to ride the bike and learn skills. This is based on a school field ideally but also a playground. **Doesn’t need any support staff.**

## Read Set Ride and Go Ride Leicester



### How to find out more

**Tiffany Fletcher**

Community Go-Ride Coach

✉ [TiffanyFletcher@britishcycling.org.uk](mailto:TiffanyFletcher@britishcycling.org.uk)

☎ 07384214096

🌐 [www.britishcycling.org.uk](http://www.britishcycling.org.uk)



*Supports the Eco-Schools transport and healthy living topics*





# Eco-Visitor at Willowbrook Mead Primary Academy

In October 2019, students from Willowbrook Mead Primary Academy were visited by **Sir James Bevan, Chief Executive of the Environment Agency**.

Year 6 wrote lots of letters to different people and companies about plastic and he happened to be one of them. He was so impressed that he wanted to visit the school!

It's not something he usually does and he was really impressed with the questions the children asked. He was really lovely and said that he would love to know about any Eco activities the school do so that he can retweet!

Well done to all the students and keep up the great environmental work!



*Supports the marine and litter topics*

## Fairtrade Fortnight 2020 is coming



[Fairtrade Fortnight 2020](#) will run from **Monday 24th February to Sunday 8th March 2020!** These two weeks are a fantastic opportunity to learn about Fairtrade and share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks.

This year they will be focusing on [cocoa](#). Farmers of this much-loved product have seen prices for their product fall to crisis levels in the last few years, making life increasingly difficult. This is especially true in West Africa, where most cocoa is grown.

The Fairtrade Foundation are currently working hard on brand new learning resources to help your students learn about the cocoa supply chain, living incomes and farming in the rainforest! These will be available to download from their [Resources](#) webpage now.

We love to hear what you get up to during Fairtrade Fortnight, so get in touch soon!



*Supports the Eco-Schools global learning topic*

Go to [schools.fairtrade.org.uk](https://schools.fairtrade.org.uk)  
for more information

# Eco-Schools Roadshow 2019



During November and December 2019, Leicester City Council worked closely with many organisations and workshops including Sustrans, Bincenvites, Food for Life, Severn Trent, Air Quality Education and Flood Aware, Flood Prepared to teach young children about the ways in which little steps they take can create a huge difference in saving the environment. Thank you very much to all our host schools (Soar Valley College, Rushey Mead Academy, Fullhurst College, English Martyrs' School and Moat College) and all the school staff that helped making them run so smoothly. Photos of the roadshow are now on the [schools extranet](#). **Why not see if you can spot yourself?**



## Participating schools:

Inglehurst Junior School  
Parks Primary School  
Stokes Wood Primary School  
Uplands LEAD Junior Academy  
Queensmead Primary Academy

Folville Junior School  
Christ the King Primary School  
Caldecote Primary  
St Marys Fields Primary  
Land of Learning Primary School  
Bridge Junior School

Linden Primary School  
Highfields Primary School  
Spinney Hill Primary School  
Sandfield Close Primary School  
Avenue Primary School  
Kirby Muxloe Primary School

Rushey Mead Primary School  
Whitehall Primary School  
Church Hill Junior School  
Catherine Junior School  
Willowbrook Mead Primary  
Academy



*Supports the Eco-Schools awards as part of sharing good practice and finding out what other schools are doing*

# Air Quality Resources Available Online

Healthier  
**AIR**  
for Leicester

Danni has been working with schools over the last 18 months on lots of exciting air quality activities and resources.

The majority of these are now available to download from the schools extranet website. They are grouped into Primary and Secondary resources as well as assembly templates.

These include:

- Be bright be seen
- Introduction to air pollution
- Switch off your engine
- Fossil Fuels
- Electrical vehicles
- How do we monitor air quality?
- How to improve air quality
- Behind the headlines – reliability of data
- Lichen studies

All the resources can be found on the [Schools Extranet](#)

## Air Quality Education Pack

### Who is this pack for?

This education pack has been created for teachers, with lesson ideas and resources for primary pupils through to sixth form students. The pack has been created to be flexible, allowing teachers to copy and paste ideas and activities into your own lesson plans. Alternatively, use each lesson or activity idea independently.

This education pack will help pupils to understand the key issues around air pollution, where it comes from and show how they can use their influence to help effect change for cleaner, safer air.

### What is air quality?

The term "air quality" essentially means the state of the air around us. Good air quality refers to clean, clear, unpolluted air. Clean air is required to maintain the delicate balance of life on earth – not just for humans, but wildlife, vegetation, water and soil. Poor air quality is generally considered to be present when pollutants reach high enough concentrations to endanger human health and/or the environment.

The UK government use a [daily air quality index \(DAQI\)](#) which provides users with information about levels of air quality and provides recommended actions and health advice. The index is numbered 1-10 and divided into four bands, low (1) to very high (10), to provide detail about air pollution levels in a simple way, similar to the sun index or pollen index.

## How to find out more

**Danni Kennell, Education Officer (Air Quality)**

Leicester City Council

☎ 07732 603 694

✉ [danielle.kennell@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:danielle.kennell@Leicester.gov.uk)



*Supports the Eco-Schools healthy living & transport topics*



## Crowd Fund Leicester



**Less than four weeks to pitch for up to £10k from Crowdfund Leicester**

Whether it be by enhancing high streets, neighbourhoods, or parks; or supporting vulnerable people and bringing communities together, if you have an idea that will make your local area better, create your project today and start to make it a reality with [Crowdfund Leicester!](#)

You need to create your page, pitch to the fund and submit your project for verification before the **27th January deadline**. Go the website for more details now.

Project Hive is currently using Spacehive to raise funds to help redevelop the Eco-House in Western Park. Further information about this project can be found in the Eco-newsletter. Why not take a look at their webpage at <https://www.spacehive.com/project-hive>

**Spacehive**



*Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics*



# New £25 million funding programme for maintained schools

## Interest free funding available for maintained schools over the next 2 years



Salix and the Department for Education have launched a pilot scheme for maintained schools looking to install energy efficiency measures over the summer of 2018. This pilot comes as a first step towards delivering £25 million of funding over a 2 year period, which aims to help schools lower energy bills, save carbon and create a more comfortable working environment.

Maintained schools are welcome to apply online for Salix interest-free funding. The payback period of this loan is calculated through the estimated energy savings resulting from installing new technologies. Where schools would like additional help in outlining projects, Salix is able to provide an energy efficiency survey via our award winning Switching to Low Energy (SLE) scheme. This scheme is designed to help schools reduce their energy spend to the lowest possible level.

The pilot is an opportunity for works to be completed for schools over the summer holidays, to avoid disruption in term time, and will also provide excellent learning going forward.

During the past year, Salix has worked with more than 500 schools and colleges to save on their energy bills and carbon footprint. This new pilot programme means that Salix will be able to work with a projected 1,000 schools across the country\*.

### Most Common Energy Efficient Technologies in Schools

- ✓ Boiler Upgrades
- ✓ Building Energy Management Systems
- ✓ Computer and IT Equipment
- ✓ Heating improvements
- ✓ Insulation Upgrades
- ✓ Kitchen Equipment
- ✓ LED Lighting
- ✓ Solar PV



Support for over  
100 technologies



Improved learning  
environment



Save money  
on energy bills



Reduced CO<sub>2</sub>  
emissions



### Five simple steps to apply

- 1 Visit [salixfinance.co.uk](http://salixfinance.co.uk) and go to the 'maintained schools' section
- 2 Create an account
- 3 Complete the application form
- 4 Submit your application online
- 5 Salix will undertake a technical assessment and award funding

To apply or for more info, please contact  
[schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk](mailto:schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk) or 020 3102 6903

\*This figure is based on an average maintained school project size of £25,000.

# Cycling for Schools 2019-20

## FREE Cycle Coaching for Leicester Schools

British Cycling and Leicester City Council are pleased to announce that they have employed a cycle coach for Leicester. Tiffany Fletcher is now in post and can be contacted on the below to arrange some FREE coaching in your school. Tiffany will provide all the relevant kit including bikes. LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE.  
Tiffany Fletcher [tiffanyfletcher@britishcycling.org.uk](mailto:tiffanyfletcher@britishcycling.org.uk) 07384214096



## Schools Games Cycling Event

The Leicester City School Sports Partnership will be holding the School Games Cycling event at the Leicester Cycle Circuit on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Please contact Charlotte Spencer to register your school for this great event. The winners will go on to represent Leicester at the County School Games event that is run by Leicestershire & Rutland Sport.  
Charlotte Spencer - [Charlotte.leicestersspan@gmail.com](mailto:Charlotte.leicestersspan@gmail.com) 07730035774

## 4 Cycle Circuit Sessions for just £99.00 per school

We are looking for schools to bring groups of the same 15 students from years 5 & 6 to take part in 4 coached sessions at the new Leicester Cycle Circuit at New College Leicester. To book a session please contact myself or Wayne Allsopp at [wallsopp@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:wallsopp@newcollege.leicester.sch.uk)

Sessions are running each half term at the following times:

- Session 1 10.00am - 11.00am
- Session 2 11.00am - 12 noon
- Session 3 12:30pm - 1.30pm
- session 4 1.30pm - 2.30pm



Supports the Eco-Schools healthy living topic



# Trashion Show 2020



Christ the King Primary School are looking for schools to take part in this year's Trashion Show. Schools design and make their own clothing items from recycled and reused items to walk down the catwalk in front of family and friends to show off their creations. The aim is to highlight the importance of recycling, reducing plastic use and upcycling/reusing items. This is a great way to have major impact on climate change in our city - let's make a stand, or a walk or a strut!

The show will be held in the spring term - either the week before or after half term. Sign up by the end of this term by emailing Anna\_McAuley on [AMcAuley@ctk.leicester.sch.uk](mailto:AMcAuley@ctk.leicester.sch.uk)



Supports the Eco-Schools waste and recycling topic

# National Eco-Schools Winners



We are delighted that two Leicester City schools were national topic winners at the **National Eco-Schools Awards 2019** held at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

[Avenue Primary School](#) won for their fantastic work on Transport topics with their work even featuring on local radio and in newspapers!

[Catherine Junior School](#) won for their wonderful work on Litter topics, with Mr T even winning his one-of-a-kind golden litter picker!

The event presents awards for each of the Eco-Topics, Eco-School of the Year (Early Years, Primary and Secondary) Volunteer Green Flag Assessor of the Year, Eco-Coordinator of the Year and Lifetime Achievement.

The awards were presented by special guest Steve Backshaw, who even treated the audience to an impromptu Q&A session, and winning schools got the chance to meet Steve and received a signed copy of his latest book.

Congratulations to all winning schools! We will keep you posted about when nominations open for the 2020 awards.



## Big Schools' Birdwatch

Inspire your class with Big Schools' Birdwatch 2020

Every year, educators from every corner of the UK take part, turning their classes into conservation scientists and helping the RSPB track the ups and downs of birds across the country. Registration is open now to 2nd February 2020. **You can submit your results any time between 6th January and 21st February 2020.**

Request your pack now at

[www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/schools-birdwatch](http://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/schools-birdwatch)

# Air Quality Education Training

This one day course will give delegates the skills and knowledge to deliver exciting and relevant science lessons around **the brand new** innovative Air Quality Education offer from Leicester City Council. **This course is suitable for primary and secondary teachers (resources aimed at KS2 and KS3 students, but suitable for all year groups).**

**Tuesday 10 March 2020    Sandfield Close Primary  
1.00pm-3.30pm    School, Leicester, LE4 7RE**

**Free and open to all schools in Leicester City**



## Why attend?

- Become confident in using resources developed by **Leicester City Council – Air Quality Education team**
- Be aware of **free support to schools** around air quality education offers including anti-idling
- Develop **learning opportunities linked to the curriculum** around the resources for your school
- **Network with other teachers and organisations** to support your school

## Who would benefit from this course?

All primary and junior school teachers, primary science leads, Eco-Schools coordinators, teaching assistants, curricular Science/STEM club organisers, teachers of secondary science (KS3)



*Refreshments will be provided*

To book your place please email  
[Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk) or call 0116 454 4543



# The Big Spring Clean 2020

**Get ready for the Great Spring Clean 2020!** In 2019 over 175,055 inspiring children and young people took part, compared to 126,000 last year - making it the biggest-ever school clean up! They were part of a mass-action of over 563,163 volunteer #LitterHeroes who took part in our Great British Spring Clean. Together, they collected 957,377 bags of litter, equal to 4,308 tonnes, from our country's schools, streets, parks, beaches and waterways - litter that could otherwise have ended up in the ocean.

Stand by for more information on how you can get involved in 2020 - whether you want to host a clean-up, join a clean-up, or pledge to do your own thing, they've got you covered. *Website registrations will open in January, with clean-ups taking place across the country from 20 March – 13 April 2020.* Until then, start spreading the word as we prepare to stand together and declare that litter – that degrades the beauty of our environment and threatens to harm wildlife – is not acceptable.

As part of Leicester's commitment we will be taking part in the Leicester Litter Less campaign with over 20 schools out litter picking during this time. Over the next few months our schools will be carrying out litter picks on over a 100 metres from the school gates. We will be celebrating in Abbey Park on Wednesday 22 April 2020 .

**Don't forget even if you aren't a Litter Less school you can still take part in the Great British Spring Clean!**



*Supports the Eco-Schools litter topic*



## COG Recycling



### A message from Teej

**Thank you for your support! It's been awesome to have you as part of our journey in 2019. We look forward to your continued support in 2020.**

With your support, COG Youth Services Ltd, have had another amazing year. We have supported hundreds more young people to volunteer, we have released a free youth magazine and run one of the most successful crisp packet recycling schemes in the country.

With your support, 2020 will be even bigger. We already have new projects and partnerships in the pipeline and are looking to work with over 100 new volunteers.

I hope you will continue to follow and support us and thank you in advance for everything.

Click [here](#) to see how you can get involved

Contact us at [info@cogyouthservices.co.uk](mailto:info@cogyouthservices.co.uk) or drop items to Visit Leicester, 51 Gallowtree Gate, Leicester LE1 5AD



*Supports the Eco-Schools waste topic*



# Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots



Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Awards recognise achievements in helping people, animals and the environment. There are three categories; a general category gives bronze, silver and gold awards to the best school projects to commend your hard work, the prestigious The Jane Goodall Award for Individual Endeavour and the Best Photographic Entry.

Winning schools will receive a free 12 month subscription to National Geographic Kids magazine whilst finalists will win a National Geographic Kids book bundle. In recent years we have had several schools attend the annual awards which take place in London (at the Barbican or London Zoo)

To submit a projects simply [register](#) on the Roots & Shoots website and post a story for your school. You can post as many project updates as you wish!

## How to find out more

Lee Jowett

☎ 0116 454 2271

✉ [lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:lee.jowett@leicester.gov.uk)



*Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics including healthy living, school grounds, marine and waste*

# International School Grounds Conference 2020

National school grounds charity Learning through Landscapes is to host an international conference on outdoor learning and play in September 2020. In partnership with the International School Grounds Alliance, the three-day event is to be packed with practical workshops and learning from the UK and beyond.

Matt Robinson, Director of Training for Learning through Landscapes comments: "We are here in Scotland to showcase the best of outdoor learning and play. We are now seen as a country who is leading in many related areas – through our policies and practice around play, outdoor learning and learning for sustainability". He continues "outdoor learning has always been a powerful learning context and motivator for pupils. The recent global climate strikes demonstrate that to engage children in global issues in a personal and local way has a significant impact – and school grounds are about as local, accessible and engaging as you can be".

The event has three main streams of workshop – early years, primary and secondary schools and design of outdoor spaces. Over 300 attendees are expected from across schools and early years settings in the UK and beyond.

You can find out more about the conference at [www.ltl.org.uk/projects/isga2020/](http://www.ltl.org.uk/projects/isga2020/)



**24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>  
September  
2020**

Learning  
through  
Landscapes



*Supports the Eco-Schools school grounds and biodiversity topics*

Introduction to

# Permaculture in a Changing Climate

Learning from  
Natural Systems

Creating beautiful  
Functional Spaces

Designing our lives  
in Turbulent Times

Fulfilling lives in  
a Changing Climate



Join us to  
learn, discuss and  
meet like-minded  
people who want to  
tackle the issues we  
face today to lead  
fulfilling lives in a  
changing climate.

2 Day Course  
9:30am - 6:00pm  
18 & 19 January 2020

Full Cost £85  
Evington Residents £60

Email for concessions

Book Now: <https://changing-climate.eventbrite.co.uk>

Contact Us: [leicestertransition@gmail.com](mailto:leicestertransition@gmail.com)

Wycliffe URC Church, The Common Evington, Leicester, LE5 6EA

# Project Hive – Eco House



Project Hive are seeking public support through a crowdfunding appeal. Western Ward Community Enterprise (WWCE) hopes that its 'Project Hive' appeal will help raise £26,000 to kickstart its plans for a major refurbishment of the vacant building and land in Western Park.

You and your school can help by:

- Promote via social media [twitter.com/wwceorguk](https://twitter.com/wwceorguk) and <https://www.facebook.com/wwceleicester/>
- Send out via parents newsletter/ ParentPay
- Fundraising events in school
- Put into your email signature
- [Pledge individually or as a school to support](#)

The deadline to achieve the target for £26,000 is extended to the 25 January 2020.



Western Ward Community Enterprise need your help to kickstart plans and apply for national funding to refurbish and bring the former eco house back into use.



Find out more and help make this idea a reality by pledging your support!  
[www.spacehive.com/project-hive](http://www.spacehive.com/project-hive)



## Project Hive

Western Ward Community Enterprise need your help to kickstart plans and apply for national funding to refurbish the former eco house to create a social space for people of all ages to encourage lifelong learning, increase community cohesion and reduce social isolation.

Help turn this idea into a reality by making a pledge!

**Target:** Phase 1 - £26,475

**Delivery:** Bring derelict land back into community use  
Incorporate green features to link to the ethos of the original Eco House  
Support the reduction of anti-social behaviour in Western Park  
Preserve and restore former community gardening space



[www.spacehive.com/project-hive](http://www.spacehive.com/project-hive)



*Supports the Eco-Schools school grounds and biodiversity topics*



# Plastic Free Schools



**PLASTIC FREE SCHOOLS IS A SYSTEM SHAKING, CHANGE MAKING PUPIL LED EDUCATION PROGRAMME.**

This ground-breaking programme equips and empowers young activists with the tools to create positive, lasting environmental change. Created to hit key curriculum targets from KS1 – KS3, our five 'Objectives' guide students through the plastic free schools process in an easy to understand, purposeful and fun way!

To begin your schools' journey to Plastic Free Status simply fill out a short form on the website. Our education team will then be in touch to guide you through the process. There are 5 steps to achieve plastic free school status. These include: setting up a committee (can be your Eco-team), carry out litter picks, focus on reducing single use plastic items in school and at home, share your ideas with local MPs and councillors, evaluate your impact. This project links in with the Eco-Schools topics fantastically and covers several topics including marine, waste and litter.

*Supports the Eco-Schools marine, litter and recycling topics*



## How to find out more Surfers Against Sewage

✉ [info@sas.org.uk](mailto:info@sas.org.uk)

☎ 01872 553 001

[www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-schools](http://www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-schools)





**Where printed, on 100% recycled paper made from post-consumer waste**