

# Schools news

July 2020



Welcome to the July Leicester Schools newsletter. This has definitely been the strangest way of ending a school year and newsletter! We would like to thank all the school staff that have continued to work at 110% during the lockdown supporting children and their families with environmental education both in school and at home. We are especially thankful to the number of schools that achieved their first Green Flag as well as those that have renewed during this difficult time, we know it hasn't been easy at all! We are around over the summer if any is catching up with eco-work and needs support, likewise we'll be here in September joined by Marc – so our team will continue to support wherever we can. **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.



# We are #1 in England!

We now have 51 Green Flag Eco-Schools which makes Leicester the number one Local Authority in England

## 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.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)

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

☎ 0116 454 2271 / 454 4543



**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.

Since April 2020

**Recently registered or re-engaged**  
Knighton Mead Primary Academy

**Bronze**  
Knighton Mead Primary Academy

**Silver**  
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

**Green Flag Award**  
Avenue Primary School\*  
Buswells Lodge Primary School  
Christ the King Catholic Primary School\*  
Highfields Primary School\*  
Mayflower Primary School\*  
Parks Primary School\*  
St Mary's Fields Primary School  
St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Wolsey House Primary School

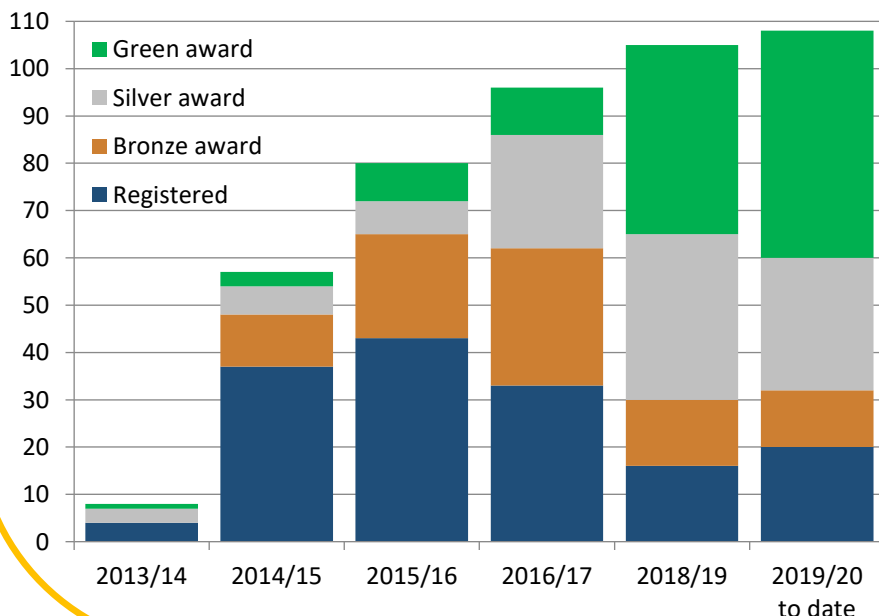
**\*renewals**

Correct as of **01/07/2020**

## 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 26 August 2021**. 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)

## We now have 51 Green Flag Eco-Schools in Leicester!



We wanted to let everyone see how well Leicester is doing with engagement in the Eco-Schools program. As you can see from the graph, not only is engagement growing each year, the number of Green Flags is at its highest yet. We are really proud to work with such inspired and inspirational young people and Eco-Coordinators. Congratulations to everyone involved and keep up the excellent work!

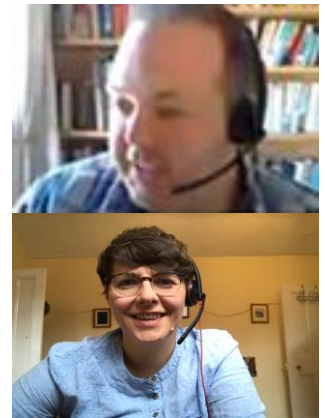


# #EcoTeach Webinars



Every Wednesday since March the Environmental Education team have hosting EcoTeach webinars focusing on each Eco-Schools topic, highlighting the projects that Leicester schools can get involved in.

Featuring special guests from The Wildlife Trust, Food For Life, TCV and many others, the recorded webinars are available on our [EcoSchoolsLCC YouTube Channel](#) along and the accompanying PowerPoint available on the [extranet](#). Each image below links directly to the YouTube channel.



### Energy projects

- BESS Energy
- Carbon Literacy
- Energy champions – job descriptions and spot checking
- Energy monitoring – DynamatLite access
- Adhesi LESS CO2
- Schools Climate Emergency Fund
- Renewable Energy project – solar panels
- Salle Finance
- Practical Action
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- Earth hour
- Climate Emergency Declaration

### Litter projects

- Litter Innovation Fund
- Litter Less Leicester
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- Great Big School Clean
- Bin It
- Helping Hands Environmental
- Curriculum Links

### School Grounds Projects

- ESBIA Flagrounds
- Woodland Trust
- Outdoor Classroom Day
- WildForest Schools
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- Eco-Schools Pioneer
- Grow Wild
- RHS Campaign for School
- Learning through Landscapes
- Learning Through Landscapes International conference
- Forest School Network
- WildGrounds
- Grow Your Own Grub and Pumpkin Growing
- TCV
- Fruitnet
- Countryside Classroom
- Curriculum Links - Wild about Learning

### Waste and Recycling Projects

- General recycling information
- Orange bag scheme
- Ball Mill
- Recycling support from Leicester City Council
- Reduce Our Stuff
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- CO2 Youth Services
- Clothes recycling
- Happy Feet - Africa's Gift
- Battery recycling
- Composting
- Cool Milk
- Plastic reduction – action planning
- Washbutter
- Carbon Literacy Project
- Plastic Free Schools
- Sainsbury's Food Waste

### Transport Projects

- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- Beat the Street
- School Run Parking
- British Cycling
- National Eco-Schools Winner
- Bikeability
- School Ride
- Play Street Orders
- Swiftrams
- Living Streets
- Air Quality Education
- Clean Air Day
- Switch of your engine campaign
- Healthier Air for Leicester Schools Award
- Walking Maps

### Biodiversity Projects

- Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust
- Woodland Trust Trees
- Naturehood
- Wildflower Seed
- Pollinators
- City Nature Challenge
- Nature App
- Buglife
- Beehive Leicester
- RSPB's Big Schools Bird Watch
- RSPB's Wild Challenge
- Big Butterfly Count
- Learning Through Landscapes – grants
- BLUE Campaign
- Working with Leicester City Council
- Curriculum Links

### Global Citizenship Projects

- British Council
- Connecting Classrooms
- eTwining
- Global Learning
- Leicester Schools Linking
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- [Re]Love Our Gadgets
- Send a Coin
- World's Largest Lesson
- Fairtrade Fortnight
- Fairtrade Award
- 30kg rice challenge
- Stride Magazine
- Oxfam Education
- Practical Action
- Carbon Literacy

### Healthy Living Projects

- Go to Green
- Beat the Street
- Grow Your Own Grub
- Pumpkin Garden
- The Governmental Partners
- Food For Life
- Healthy Schools Network
- #EcoSchoolsAtHome
- Positive and Peaceful Places - Anti-Bullying Award
- Oral Health
- Air Quality
- Meat Free Monday
- Maths4Miles
- Young Minds
- RHS Big Soup Share
- Painter Trees

### Marine Projects

- The Sea Starts Here
- Yellow Fish
- Bincoastles
- Do you know your Flood Risk?
- Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)
- Riverbank Party Production
- LEV Volunteers
- Refill Leicester
- Water Fountain Competition
- Litter Innovation Project

## #EcoTeach Webinar

### How to apply for your Green Flag

Lee Jowett, Environmental Education Coordinator  
Amy Peace, Graduate Project Officer



# How to apply for your Green Flag

Eco-Schools have made the difficult decision to cancel all Green Flag school assessment visits until the end of the summer term (and until at least October) for the safety of our schools and assessors.

**You can still submit your first Green Flag application and renew your Green Flag.** All schools that are due to renew have had extensions until at least September 2020. This will be reviewed and communicated to schools if this will be extended again.

To submit your Green Flag application, complete the standard application form which is online – remember you need to upload a photo of your noticeboard, your Eco-review and Eco-action plan. You can also upload additional documents to help Eco-Schools carry out the desktop assessment. We are also here to help!



## How to find out more

**Lee Jowett & Amy Peace**  
Environmental Education Team

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

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

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☎ 0116 454 2271 / 454 4543



urban science

Student Sheet 1	
Data Race. Use these websites <a href="https://www.ise.com/content/guide/42/04/01/01.html">https://www.ise.com/content/guide/42/04/01/01.html</a> <a href="https://www.pmp.ac.uk/content/1360/0.html">https://www.pmp.ac.uk/content/1360/0.html</a>	
Q1. What is Ultraviolet radiation? (UV)	Electromagnetic radiation with a wavelength shorter than visible light. It is harmful to humans and causes sun burn which can lead to skin cancer.
Q2. What is the Ozone layer?	A layer of gas in the atmosphere (in a part called the stratosphere) that protects the Earth from harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the Sun. This gas 'Ozone' O <sub>3</sub> is made up of molecules of three oxygen atoms together.
Q3. How are UV rays linked to the Ozone layer?	As particles of UV light strike a molecule of ozone, it absorbs it, breaking it down into oxygen again. This stops the UV rays from getting through to the surface of the earth.
Q4. What are chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases? What do they do? Where do we find them?	These gases have been responsible for 'splitting' the ozone layer as they attack and destroy ozone molecules. CFCs have been used in aerosols, fog machines, cans, fridges, and in making foam plastics.
Q5. What is the hole in the Ozone layer? What are we doing about it?	There are holes caused by a decrease in the ozone layer and found over polar regions. They let harmful ultraviolet radiation in. CFCs were banned in many countries in the mid-1990s after it was found that they were breaking up the Earth's ozone. Some scientists say the hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica could disappear within 50 years.
Q6. How does this issue link to climate change?	CFCs are also powerful greenhouse gases and are adding to the 'greenhouse effect'.

[urbanscience.eu/uk/](http://urbanscience.eu/uk/)



Supports the Eco-Schools curriculum links step

## Urban Science

Urban Science is delivering a means to teach pupils how science can develop solutions for sustainable cities, motivating them to view the positive benefits of science to the urban environment.

The project aims to meet the needs of an urban Europe, where scientists of the future will need the skills and knowledge to create healthy and sustainable cities.

Four learning modules have been developed so far. These focus on the topics of climate change, biodiversity and UV light. New modules on energy and mobility are under development.

Each module is linked with the curriculum and support delivery of a Required Practical. They provide opportunities for Working Scientifically.



# 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.

**\*\*This project will now take place in the 2020/21 academic year. Get in touch to register your interest.**

## 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*

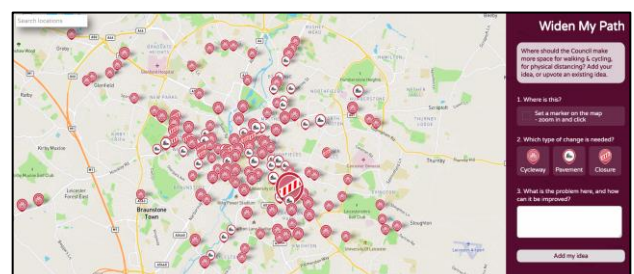
## Widen My Path



To help keep us safe, the government has announced that councils should be creating new cycleways and wider pavements for physical distancing.

We need your help to identify where these are most needed. Add your ideas and support others at <https://www.widenmypath.com/>

The website also has a cycling journey [planner](#)



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

# Attending a Young People's Climate March with a Primary Aged Group



In this school, we are keenly aware of the need to engage the children in environmental and other contemporary issues that affect, and will continue to affect, their world. I had given a whole-school assembly about the climate strikes and Greta Thurnberg but I wanted the children to experience and support the strikes 'first hand' where possible.

After all, the strikes are young people led and are more powerful when children are foregoing their formal education to have their voices heard about such an important issue. I had made the children aware of the time-table for the strikes and the school is lucky to have a supportive head who authorized absence for children taking part in an 'official school strike' with their parents. Many of them attended independently.



Later, I met one of our school governors at one of the strikes where Shaftesbury and Catherine Junior schools were taking part. This inspired us to do the same with our school and she and I agreed that we should try and have a school trip to take part in the next strike. Luckily, we have an active Eco group in school and they were obvious candidates. They were all extremely excited about the idea!

One problem we had was that Overdale Junior school is quite a long way from the city centre and I definitely was not going to arrange a coach or cars to take us, which is the usual default option for school trips. We briefly toyed with the idea of a cycle trip but then settled on using the public bus, which goes from right outside our school. The children were as excited about this as they were about the march in general and several of them said that they had not been on a public bus before!

On the day, everything went smoothly and the children were well behaved and most had made lovely banners. We had a long wait at the clock-tower before starting the march but otherwise they all enjoyed it. We were pleased to be joined by some parents at the march and our headteacher and assistant head-teacher also came. It was a memorable day for all and the children loved the attention and the ability to make lots of noise. Huge thanks and appreciation to the organisers of the march. I would definitely recommend it for other schools who are considering the idea.

Some helpful hints that I picked up that may help others in future:

Some helpful hints that I picked up that may help others in future:

- Let the organisers know that a group of primary age children are coming. They will bear this in mind when they make the plans. You may also want to check if the speeches will be overly political before you go. The ones at ours were but it WAS the march just before the election!
- As with any trip, get required permissions. In particular, you need to emphasise to parents that this is a public event and photographs will likely be taken. The press were even there when we went.
- If going by public transport (and I very much recommend that you do) go to the bus station and buy your tickets in advance. I got family tickets which are designed for groups of children and a small number of adults. The person in the office can find you the best deal and this saves a lot of time when you get on the bus.

I'm happy to chat with anyone who is thinking of taking a group of young children from school to a march, once we are able to once again. **Stephen Massey, Overdale Junior School**



# Practical ACTION

## Wind Power Challenge

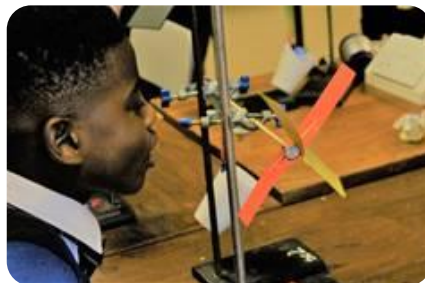


Practical Action's [Wind Power challenge](#) is a renewable energy STEM challenge where pupils learn about life without electricity before designing and making a simple wind turbine. Suitable for pupils aged 7-19.

Recently updated, this popular challenge introduces pupils to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) and includes a starter activity where pupils simulate how the National Grid supplies electricity to most parts of the UK. Pupils then explore how life for people in the rural mountainous regions of Peru is different as they live without access to mains electricity.

All materials are **free** and include a home learning guide, teacher's guide, pupil activity sheets, PowerPoint presentation, poster and certificates.

This challenge can also be used by pupils to gain a [CREST Award](#)



## Get Together, Get Filming!

Most of us are comfortable filming videos on our own smartphones, however, it can become more complex once pupils, weather conditions and other factors come into play!

Our Get Together team have put together a video of top tips for filming – simple to do, you won't need a tripod or a lightbox.

[Watch the video here](#)

You can also download our PDF of [Filmmaking Top Tips here](#).

### Stay in touch with Food For Life

We want to support you in the best way possible as the situation progresses. To get in touch and let us know what would be helpful, email Lisa Didier at [LDidier@soilassociation.org](mailto:LDidier@soilassociation.org)



Supports the  
**Eco-Schools topics Healthy Living and School Grounds**



# Living Streets: #WalkingFromHome

As the UK charity for everyday walking, we have promoted the importance of walking to school for over twenty years. During normal times, the walk to school is the single most accessible way to reduce congestion and pollution outside the school gates, while increasing the safety and improving physical and mental wellbeing of pupils. Now that we are taking steps out of the COVID 19 lockdown and looking to the future, walking to school and its countless benefits have become more important than ever. As we are still being asked to practise physical distancing when outside our homes, the [government is highlighting](#) the importance of this also happening during school drop-off and pick-up times. Further down we'll be looking at effective and systemic approaches you and your school can adopt to make this happen, but first, let's flesh out some useful reminders and tips:

1. On your journey to school, where possible, maintain two metres distance from others.
2. Where safe physical distancing is not possible, if you can, use a face covering.
3. Wash or sanitise your hands before and after your journey to school.
4. Plan ahead your route.
5. If you have no alternative to public transport, refer to this [infographic for guidance](#).
6. Consider staggered drop-off and pick-up times to limit the number of people approaching the school gates at the same time.
7. Use tape, posters, cones, or stencils to mark the road to remind families about keeping a safe distance from others. [Here you can find downloadable government posters and shareables](#).
8. Encourage families who are coming back to school to walk their journey using our [Walk Back To School shareable](#).

[www.livingstreets.org.uk/news-and-blog/blog/walkingfromhome-walking-to-school-safely](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/news-and-blog/blog/walkingfromhome-walking-to-school-safely)



Supports the Eco-Schools topics  
Transport and Healthy Living



## New survey reveals parent concern over street safety

[Living Streets](#) has joined with nine other NGOs to urgently call on councils to make walking and cycling safer so children can travel safely when schools reopen.

It comes as a new survey finds six out of ten parents are worried about increased levels of traffic when lockdown is lifted.

The ten NGOs\* recommend "School Street" schemes (which close roads to cars during pick up and drop off times) as particularly important as schools try to manage social distancing at the school gates, along with street improvements to make every child's journey safer to walk and cycle.

Read more about the results [here](#).



\* [Global Action Plan](#), [Mums for Lungs](#), [Living Streets](#), [Possible](#), [ClientEarth](#), [Cycling UK](#), [Asthma UK & British Lung Foundation Partnership](#), [FIA Foundation](#), [Ella Roberta Family Foundation](#) and [Guy's and St. Thomas' Charity](#)



# Naturespace Challenge



Take the Naturespace Challenge!

We want to meet the wildlife on your doorstep! Join [Naturehood](#) and be part of our research: we're mapping wildlife populations across the UK to find out how communities can work together to help them thrive.

Taking part will help you discover the wildlife on your doorstep and build our collective understanding of what makes a real difference for UK wildlife.

In total, the Naturespace Challenge is divided into 7 sections and takes about 1 hour to complete and can be completed in two stages (indoor and outdoor).

You will be surveying birds, pollinators, mammals, ground dwellers and pondlife as well as background data such as the weather and your Naturespace features

Register: [my.naturehood.uk/page/naturespace-challenge](https://my.naturehood.uk/page/naturespace-challenge) and complete the online survey or print off the [PDF](#) and enter the data afterwards.



*Supports the Eco-Schools biodiversity topics*

## Education Sustainability Award



The Department for Education is committed to sustainable development and we believe that it is vital for our schools to prepare our young people for the future. Schools are a perfect opportunity to engage the minds of our future leaders in developing sustainable ways of living. It's important for them to understand the principles of what sustainability is, and what it means to be truly sustainable.

Following its success in 2019, we are proud to announce that the Department for Education 'Sustainability Award' is back for a second year running. We want to hear from you and celebrate the collective efforts that you are making to contribute to towards a more sustainable future. For entry requirements and to enter head to the website [here](#).



[www.educationstates.com/awards-dinner-information/department-of-education-sustainability-award](https://www.educationstates.com/awards-dinner-information/department-of-education-sustainability-award)



*Supports many of the Eco-Schools topics*

# BESS Energy 2020-21 12 Month Subscription

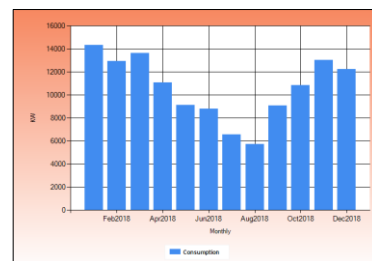
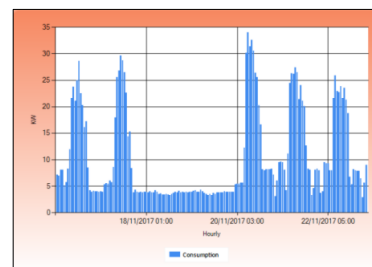
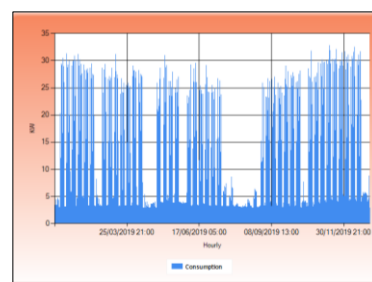
**Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials?**

**Energy and water is one of the biggest spends for schools after staffing.** Leicester City Council has worked closely to develop an offer as part of BESS schools to **develop tools and reports to empower staff and students to take control** of their energy and water use.

***This offer is open to all schools in Leicester City at cost price as part of our Climate Emergency Declaration commitment***

## What is included in the service:

- **Monitoring equipment installed and maintained** (gas or district heat, water and electricity) throughout your subscription
- Access to **DynamatLite**, the half hourly energy and water monitoring website used by Leicester City Council for your own unique data
- **Identification and reporting** of excessive use/wastage (phone and email)
- **Annual energy and carbon** report which identifies trends in data and potential savings over 5 years (subject to data availability)
- **Data report for Academies** – Streamlining Energy and Carbon Reporting (SERC)
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider



*"Through monitoring our water, we identified a leak which could have cost us hundreds of pounds had it not been spotted" Business Manager, Leicester*

For more information please contact:

Lee Jowett

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

☎ 0116 454 2271

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

***This service will start in September 2020***

**BESS Energy £495**

**10% reduction for BESS schools**

Sign up to BESS Energy by 30 August 2020 by completing our [online form](#).



# BESS Energy Enhanced 2020-21

## 12 Month Subscription

**Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials?**

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**This offer is open to all schools in Leicester City at cost price as part of our Climate Emergency Declaration commitment**

### What is included in the service?

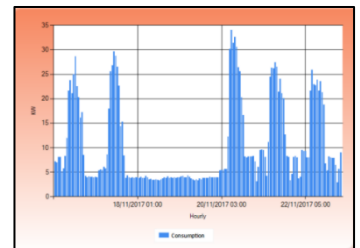
#### All the benefits of BESS Energy:

- **Monitoring equipment installed and maintained** (gas or district heat, water and electricity) throughout your subscription
- Access to **DynamatLite**, the half hourly energy and water monitoring website used by Leicester City Council for your own unique data
- **Identification and reporting** of excessive use/wastage (phone and email)
- **Annual energy and carbon** report which identifies trends in data and potential savings over 5 years (subject to data availability).
- Data report for Academies **Streamlining Energy and Carbon Reporting (SERC)** requirements (at no extra cost)
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider

#### Plus BESS Energy Enhanced:

- **Identification and reporting** of excessive use/wastage (including visits)
- **Regular updates** via email and online
- **Provision of your annual DEC certificate** (or subsidised 7 year DEC certificate)
- Online or face to face training **termly**
- **The equivalent of 3 full days of bespoke support** per school (including technical, analysis and education support for staff and pupils)

*"Through monitoring our electricity we discovered our thermal heater timers had a fault meaning that they were being left on at the weekend, once resolved this saved hundreds of pounds over the school holidays"* **Business Manager, Leicester**



For more information please contact:

Lee Jowett

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

☎ 0116 454 2271

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

Sign up to BESS Energy by 30 August 2020 by completing our [online form](#).

**This service will start in September 2020**

**BESS Energy Enhanced £1295**  
**10% reduction for BESS schools**





# Built Environment School Service (BESS) Energy Academies 2020-21 Annual Energy and Carbon Report



From 1 April 2020, academy trusts will need to report on environmental reporting regulations. Regulations require large companies which consume more than 40,000 kWh of energy in a reporting period to include certain information about energy efficiency measures. Large companies are defined by sections 465-466 of the Companies Act 2006 as companies which meet 2 out of the following 3 criteria:

- Gross income of £36 million or more;
- Balance sheet assets of £18 million or more; and
- 250 employees or more

The reporting period for academy trusts will be 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-reporting-guidelines-including-mandatory-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reporting-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-reporting-guidelines-including-mandatory-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reporting-guidance)

**Academies in Leicester City that choose BESS Energy or BESS Energy Enhanced will receive BESS Energy Academies as part of the product and do not need to purchase twice, saving up to £150 per school.**

## What is included in the service?

### Reports which covers:

- Annual carbon, energy and water usage reports
- Analysis of energy and water trends/patterns of usage
- Identifying the impact of energy/water efficiency improvements
  
- Data in a format required as part of Energy and Carbon Reporting regulation (from September 2020):
  - UK energy use (in kWh) including purchased electricity, gas and transport fuel
  - Associated greenhouse gas emissions (in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent)
  - At least one 'intensity ratio' that expresses the academy trust's annual emissions in relation to a quantifiable factor associated with its activities
  - Information about energy efficiency action taken during the year
  - Methodologies used in the calculation of disclosures
  
- Provision of a collated MAT report provided
  
- Provision of data for school's preferred Display Energy Certificate (DEC) provider

***This offer is open to all Multi-Academy Trusts in England***

**£150 per academy**

**10% reduction for Leicester BESS schools**

**For more information please contact:**

**Lee Jowett**

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

☎ **0116 454 2271**

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

***This service is available from September 2020***

**Sign up to BESS Energy by 30 August 2020  
by completing our [online form](#).**







# 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 working capital finance. The public benefit 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 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.



# The Sea Starts Here Campaign



Leicester City Council's Flooding and Drainage team are pleased to announce that the Sea Starts Here Campaign will restart from 1st September 2020 and we are looking for 20 schools to take part in this year's project.

The project aims to increase awareness of the impact of plastic waste (particularly single use plastics) on our river and marine environments by spraying stencils around drains on and around the school grounds. As plastic dropped as litter in our urban environments, ends up in our rivers and seas causing pollution, harm to wildlife as well as contributing to increased flood risk.

**The project is delivered in three parts:**

- **An assembly introducing the project and topic**
- **Spray paint stencilling session with a group of 6 – 10 students (usually the Eco-Committee)**
- **Children design a poster for leaflet to take home to parents to explain the problems of plastics and litter. This can be completed at a separate date/time to parts one and two.**

The project runs for 3 hours and can be delivered as a morning or afternoon session. It is suitable for pupils between Years 3 – 9 and all resources for the event, including safety equipment (goggles, respirators, gloves and shoe covers) will be provided as part of the project. All stencils are sprayed using environmentally friendly, semi-permanent spray paint lasting between 3 – 12 weeks (dependant on weather).

By taking part in this project, you'll have a great way to introduce the Marine and Water Eco-Schools topics to students and get them thinking about the impacts of pollution in our urban areas, and the wider impacts this has on our river and marine environments. As well as incredible stencils in and around the school grounds that will act as a reminder to students, teachers and the wider community.

Having run the project last year, we have gathered some great feedback: **Councillor Adam Clarke** (Deputy City Mayor) said *"the powerful message...is hard to ignore"* and **Mrs Hayley Homes** (Head Teacher of Overdale Infants Schools) said *"The Sea Starts Here event has helped the children understand the impact of plastic waste and the need to recycle. They were very enthusiastic...to enhance our eco message to the wider school community"*

**Given the current challenges regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19), we are flexible in our approach to the delivery of the project and have adapted it to enable digital/remote delivery of the assembly, with activity packs that can be issued to schools. The stencilling session can be delivered at a later date. We are committed to operating the project in accordance with the latest government guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19).**



## How to find out more

Alex Cameron

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Lee Jowett

☎ 0116 454 2271

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**Supports the Eco-Schools  
Marine and litter topics**



# Glass Guardians



Glass Guardians is back, and this year we are looking for super-recyclers! We have updated the activities and as a result, we have a new competition. Help children aged 5-11 understand the importance of recycling because we all need to help our planet. With adapted activities, the resources are perfect for use in school or at home.

You can register as a teacher or parent on the [website](#).

Challenge learners to complete curriculum-linked activities for their place on the superhero team. Teachers can find **activity sheets** and **lesson plans**, for both their **KS1 and KS2** pupils. But also, parents can find resources adapted for **home learning** and suitable for ages 7-11. Do they have what it takes to become Glass Guardians?

## Glass Guardians Competition

The challenge is to create a glass recycling superhero to join the nation of Glass Guardians. What super-recycling powers will they have? What does their superhero costume look like?

If learners share their ideas they could win £500 of Amazon vouchers for the school. Plus, there are £50 of vouchers for the winning learner's chosen outlet up for grabs. So, enter today for the chance to win. You can scan or take a high quality photograph of your competition entry forms and email them to [competitions@nationalschoolspartnership.com](mailto:competitions@nationalschoolspartnership.com) by Friday October 9th 2020. Full terms and conditions can be found [here](#).

As well as the chance to win these fabulous prizes, our favourite entry every month will win a £10 voucher for Waterstones! Glass Guardians is brought to you by British Glass. For information on their work please visit their site [here](#). Find more amazing initiatives with free resources [here](#).



*Supports the Eco-Schools waste and recycling topics*



# Carbon Literacy Isolation Activities

With the growing pandemic of Covid-19 requiring us to "stay indoors to save lives", millions of people are now self-isolating or practising social distancing in their homes. While this is necessary to beat the contagious virus, many are finding themselves at a loss for something meaningful to do with their time.

Click [here](#) for the top 10 things the Carbon Literacy Trust recommend that you can do to stay busy while self-isolating, to keep your carbon emissions low including:

- Growing your own veg
- Reading or watching environmental based media
- Exercise

Carbon Literacy Project



## How to find out more Carbon Literacy Project

✉ [info@carbonliteracy.com](mailto:info@carbonliteracy.com)

🌐 <https://carbonliteracy.com/>



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

# Leicester Schools Linking Project 2020-21



*Supports the Eco-Schools global learning topic*

## How does a school join the project?

- **Complete and return the Expression of Interest Form**
- Upon receipt of your form we will contact you to discuss: Your school priorities and a suitable link;
- preferred age group; number of classes you would like to be involved, a start date for you (this is flexible due to the unprecedented situation). If you have already established a partner school and would like to take part in the project together as an existing link, please ensure that both schools apply and make the partnership clear on the Expression of Interest form.
- **We will provide CPD remotely, in the Autumn and Spring Term**
- **The project offers access to activities and resources throughout the year**
- **There is no cost to the school of participating in the Leicester Schools Linking Project**

If you require more information please call Ruth Sinhal on 07957 212122 or email [school.linking@stphilipscentre.co.uk](mailto:school.linking@stphilipscentre.co.uk)

**The Linking Network** is a national programme, based in Bradford which has been running successfully for 18 years, creating year-long curriculum rich class links between schools within Local Authorities. The **Leicester Schools Linking Project** utilises the programme which has been developed by The Linking Network to bring classes together across Leicester and Leicestershire.

**After a successful first year we doubled our reach in our second year and are now looking to grow and develop in our third year and offer the opportunity to more schools across the region. We would therefore like to invite you to join the project, aimed at pupils in all key stages, for the 2020 –2021 academic year**

The project links pairs of classes from Leicester / Leicestershire, based on the mutual benefits for the schools. Pupils will communicate in many ways during the project, take part in shared digital experiences and interactive activities created by LCFC in The Community, Leicester Museums, ArtReach and others. Pupils will have the opportunity to participate together in some incredible activities and exchange work throughout the year to get to know each other through the exploration of these four key questions:

- **Who am I? – exploring identity**
- **Who are we? – celebrating diversity**
- **Where do we live? – promoting community**
- **How do we all live together? – championing equality**

The Covid-19 situation makes face to face meetings unlikely this year but should the situation change before the end of the Summer Term 2021, we of course suggest you visit your partner school or meet in a neutral venue.







# #EcoSchoolsAtHome

Every Tuesday since March, Eco-Schools England have been releasing a new Eco-Schools Topic hand-out, including 5 different topic related tasks, that can be undertaken both at home and in school in order to help support those of you still working in school and those of you who are now having to home school.

You may or may not be aware that Eco-Schools is the largest educational programme in the world – with nearly 70 different countries running the programme. Like in us in England nearly all of these countries have now had to close their schools in order to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Therefore our global Eco-Schools ‘family’ are encouraging schools, pupils and families to share with us their eco-home schooling on social media using #EcoSchoolsStayHome and #EcoSchoolsAtHome. We would love you to do the same when carrying out our different topic actions, therefore please make sure to @ us on Facebook, Twitter and Insta in any photos you post. It definitely makes working from home a lot more fun and rewarding for our team to see some smiling faces! We may even consider launching an Eco-Schools Tik Tok if this goes well...

**Biodiversity**

## #EcoSchoolsAtHome

### Palm Oil

Acres of Rainforest are cut down everyday to produce palm oil leading to a loss of habitat for many endangered animals.

**How many products containing palm oil can you find in your home?**

Nursery	Primary	Secondary/College
Do any of these items have the sustainable palm oil logo? Count the number of logos you can find.	Research the effects of palm oil and write a persuasive e-mail to one of these companies encouraging them to switch to sustainable palm oil or stop using palm oil altogether.	Use the internet to research alternative products containing sustainable (or no) palm oil.

### Plants

We love them!

**Find a plant you can adopt either in your house or garden.**

Nursery	Primary	Secondary/College
Name your plant! Find out what plants need to grow, does your plant have everything it needs?	Name your plant, then find out its botanical name. Use the internet to research how to look after your plant: does it get enough sunlight (or too much)? How frequently does it need watering and how much water does it need? Does it need pruning?	Name your plant and find out its botanical name, use the internet to find out if it has everything it needs. Have a look at plant adaptations, how have plants adapted to live in rainforests or deserts?

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/ecoschoolsengla/biodiversity-topic/>

[www.eco-schools.org.uk](http://www.eco-schools.org.uk)

Supports all Eco-Schools topics

## Young Vets Club Competition

The deadline for the Young Vets Club Competition has been extended to the 24 July 2020.

On their website they have all the information needed to enter the competition including PowerPoints, Cartoon Template and entry form.

Children need to create an illustrated story board of Ekari, a baby elephant from Myanmar who was rescued after being snared by poachers

**THE COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN!**

**WINNING PRIZE: CHILD'S CARTOON PROFESSIONALLY ILLUSTRATED!**

**PLUS 250 FREE YVC MEMBERSHIPS TO THE FIRST 50 SCHOOL ENTRIES\*!**

\*MEMBERSHIP PRIZES WILL GO TO THE FIRST 50 SCHOOL ENTRIES TO BE RECEIVED TO THE POSTAL ADDRESS BELOW

**YOU CAN NOW DOWNLOAD ALL THE COMPETITION MATERIALS!**

Download our competition pack with everything you need to run this competition here:

Submit your email address to download the competition pack

Email address\*

**DOWNLOAD**

**A QUICK REMINDER:**

Send us your top 5 entries as quickly as possible so that your students have a chance to win one of the 250 free memberships on offer. The first 50 schools to respond can win prizes for their students.

**COMPETITION CLOSING DATE:**

**24 July 2020**

[www.youngvetsclub.com/school-competition-details](http://www.youngvetsclub.com/school-competition-details)

Supports the Eco-Schools biodiversity topic







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