

# Schools news

July 2021



## What is Eco-Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Environmental Education team based in the Sustainability Team who provide **free** support to schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do.

As well as one-to-one support and environmentally linked projects, schools can engage through termly #EcoTeachMeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration events and can keep up to date through dedicated social media, 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.



Welcome to the July Leicester Schools newsletter.

We have been delivering our Summer Reading Challenge workshops in schools over the last month, tackling issues from plastic pollution, to litter, to carbon emissions! A huge thank you goes out to the Library Services team for helping to bring books to life for all the children we met along the way.

The team also really enjoyed the Clean Air Day events at schools across the city. You are all doing your bit to bring attention to the issue of air pollution in very creative ways, which we loved to see. This month is Plastic Free Month, with 3 July being Plastic Bag Free Day. There is a lot of attention on reducing plastic use, so why not take a closer look at your habits?

As always, get in touch if you need any support - Lee, Amy, Marc and Hollie

## Litter Less

The scores are in! The three schools that picked up the most litter during this year's Litter Less campaign are:

- Charnwood Primary: 76.2kg
- Caldecote Community Primary: 67.64kg
- Jameah Girls Academy: 28.44kg

Congratulations to all 27 schools that took part – together you have helped bring the total amount of litter picked up to over 4500kg! You have made us all very proud!

## How to find out more

Lee Jowett / Amy Peace / Marc Tench / Hollie Campbell  
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](https://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 / 4543 / 6746 / 4048



**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.

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 normally visited by an external assessor at a mutually agreed time, however due to covid assessment are currently being done remotely.



Since April 2021

### **Bronze**

*Humberstone Infant Academy*

*Humberstone Junior Academy*

*Imperial Avenue Infant School*

### **Silver**

*Jameah Girls Academy*

### **Green**

*Bridge Junior School\**

*Land of Learning Primary School*

*Granby Primary School*

*Merrydale Junior School*

**\*renewals**

**Correct as of 02/07/2021**

## 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 20 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)

## Want to contribute to science?

A PhD study at the University of the West of England is looking into traffic-related air pollution and policy in the vicinity of schools in the UK. If you are interested in protecting child health from the effects of air pollution, they need your help!

Complete the [online questionnaire](#) to give your valuable opinions and help collect data that will help to develop strategies to reduce child exposure to harmful air pollution. The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and is entirely anonymous.

When you're done, remember to also share the study with relevant parties (such as staff, in-school newsletters, noticeboards, via social media, and to parents, teachers and governors), as the more interested parties that participate, the better!

# Dates for your diary – Eco events



In late August we'll share a complete calendar for the year including national events. For now, please see below events for the start of term.

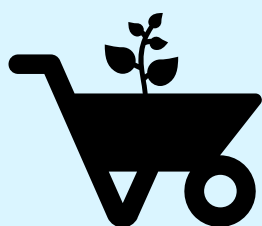
Event	Event Summary	Further details (date/time/location)
<b>Grow Your Own Grub Celebration</b>	Join us for the mealbarrow celebration featuring over 20 of the excellent growing schools of Leicester schools	<b>Saturday 3 July 2021</b> <b>12noon - 3pm</b> Abbey Pumping Station
<b>Great Big Green Week Mini Grants for Schools</b>	Secure yourself a £100 mini-grant to hold an environmental event during Great Big Green Week! Sign up on <a href="#">the official eForm</a> .	First deadline <b>Sunday 4 July 2021</b> , with other rolling deadlines TBC
<b>Beat the Streets</b>	Beat the Street is a fun, free walking and cycling game which gets staff, pupils and their families out and about in the local area, having fun and keeping healthy.	<b>Wednesday 26 May – Monday 7 July</b>
<b>"Letter to the Future" Competition</b>	In conjunction with Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots, we are holding a competition for enrolled schools. See <a href="#">our extranet</a> for full details!	Deadline <b>Tuesday 31 August 2021</b> , winners announced in Green Week
<b>Summer Reading Challenge</b>	Take part in a wild reading challenge at libraries this summer, courtesy of the Wild World Heroes!	Visit your local library to sign up any time <b>before Tuesday 31 August</b> , and complete the challenge before <b>Tuesday 7 September</b>
<b>Great Big Green Week</b>	Join us for a week-long festival of events celebrating the environment and climate action. <a href="#">Find out more on the schools' extranet</a> .	<b>Saturday 18 September – Sunday 26 September</b>
<b>Environmental Film Festival</b>	A Film festival, featuring different films with environmental themes, for school pupils with their parents or carers. Ticket details TBC!	<b>Monday 20 September – Thursday 23 September</b> at Phoenix Cinema
<b>Secondary School's Conference</b>	We are giving secondary school students the opportunity to reflect on the issues affecting us by climate change! To express an interest in this event, please fill out this <a href="#">short eForm</a> .	<b>Tuesday 21 September 2021</b> , 9:30am-2:30pm on Microsoft Teams
<b>Great Big Green Week Newsday</b>	In partnership with DocMedia Centre, a day of news will be hosted in the following week, including interviews with school staff and pupils, and highlights of all the festival events.	<b>Wednesday 29 September 2021</b> , hosted via Zoom and live streamed on our Facebook page





# Leicester Mealbarrow Extravaganza!

(part of the Grow Your Own Grub competition for schools)



## Saturday 3 July 2021

12 – 3pm

At Abbey Pumping Station Museum  
Corporation Rd, Leicester, LE4 5PX



Come and view over 20 mealbarrows created by  
Leicester schools, and vote for your favourite!

# Great Big Green Week Leicester

## 18-26 September 2021



**In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK!**



### Why participate?

- Funding of £100 for school events, with support from Leicester City Council and partner organisations such as TCV, Food for Life, Learning through Landscapes.
- Raise awareness of Climate change and other environmental issues within your school and the wider community.
- Contributes towards progress on your Eco-Schools Green Flag



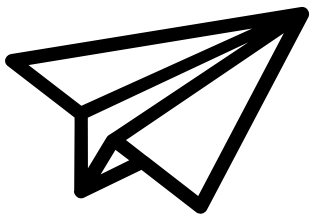
### How can schools in Leicester take part?

*Sustainable Schools Leicester are organising a number of events throughout the week including:*

- **60 events at schools across Leicester City, with a variety of environmental themes. Each school will receive funding of £100 to spend on resources. See separate flyer for ideas, support and how to sign up.**
- A secondary school conference hosted at City Hall (or virtually if unable due to COVID-19) on Tuesday 21 September 2021, (9.30am-2.30pm)
- **An online newsroom with DocMedia Centre featuring interviews with school staff and pupils, and highlights of the week, all hosted via Zoom & YouTube.**
- A Jane Goodall Roots & Shoots 'Letter to the Future' Competition before the Green Week, with winners announced during the week.
- **A Film festival hosted at the Phoenix Independent Cinema between Monday 20 and Thursday 23 September. This will be for school pupils with their parents/carers.**
- A Great Big Green Litter Pick and Climate March on Friday 24 September. A drone camera will be used to capture the event including an image of people spelling out 'Green Week'.

*This free event is free and open to all schools in Leicester City and our traded services*

**For more information, please contact [Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk)**



# “Letter to the Future” Competition

**What will the environment look like in 2050?**

We want school students of all ages to tell us in our Great Big Green Week competition!

The brief is simple: write a letter to an adult of your choice describing what you think the future will look like in 2050 (maximum 1 side of A4 written or typed).



This could be a relative, other adult, councillor or even MP!

In partnership with Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Programme, there are lots of Jane Goodall books to be won for the winners of each key stage category. An overall winner will also be chosen to receive a book signed by Jane Goodall herself!

Entries can be from students between 4-19 years old  
Please send a photo, scanned copy or word file of your entries (using our template or your own design) to [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk) in .pdf, .jpg or .doc format.

The deadline is 31 August 2021, with winners to be announced during the Great Big Green Week (18-26 September 2021).

Please note, your school must be signed up to the Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Programme for entries to be eligible. You can sign up for free on [the Roots & Shoots website](https://www.rootsandshoots.org/)!

**THE GREAT  
BIG GREEN  
WEEK**

**30** Jane Goodall's  
Roots & Shoots  
**ANNIVERSARY!**



# Mini grants for the Great Big Green Week



**In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK!**



## **Ideas for events:**

- Coffee morning
- Walk or cycle to school
- Eco-bingo
- School talks/presentations from partner organisations (e.g. about food growing, encouraging pollinators into gardens or window boxes for parents and governors)

**Watch the [online training video on the Climate Coalition website](#) for more ideas!**



**As part of this we are offering 60 schools across Leicester City and schools in our traded services to organise events within the school for their local community.**

## **The details:**

- The events must have an environmental theme and take place between **18-26 September 2021**
- Funding of £100 will be given to each school to cover costs incurred
- Support will be given from Leicester City Council and partner organisations where needed including:
  - City Council teams – Environmental Education, walking and cycling, biodiversity, flood risk, air quality, parks and volunteers
  - Partner organisations - Food for Life, TCV, Learning through Landscapes, Central England Cooperative and Highcross Shopping Centre

**To apply for a £100 mini-grant, please fill out this [short e-Form](#)**

**Grants are offered on a rolling basis, but the initial deadline is 4 July 2021.**

**For more information, please contact [Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk)**



# Secondary Schools' Conference



In September communities across the country will join together for the Great Big Green Week. It will be the biggest event for climate and nature ever in the UK!



We are giving secondary school (KS3 to KS5) students the opportunity to reflect on some of the issues affecting us by climate change!

The details:

- **On Tuesday 21 September**, students from all over Leicester can come together to attend a conference set up to discuss the environment and policies put in place to protect it across Leicester.
- **There will be several speakers from** that will share their expertise, followed by interactive workshops.
- **The plan is to hold the event at City Hall in Leicester city centre**, but we are also planning virtual provisions.
- **Further details will be released at the end of August 2021.**



In the spirit of Great Big Green Week, we are especially interested to hear from schools that have not previously engaged in this type of event!



Sign up using [the official eForm](#) if you would like to get your students involved in climate discussions and lobbying action in September 2021!

For more information, please contact [Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-schools@Leicester.gov.uk)



# Lower Carbon Lunches for Schools

## Climate Action Waste Workshop

Leicester City Council's Environmental Education Team are launching a workshop for students to raise awareness about the climate impacts of food and to reduce waste associated to school meals in the city. *Workshops will take place in September 2021 onwards.*

The workshop will cover four core themes:

- **Energy use** - 40% of a schools carbon footprint is energy and its estimated and average of 20% is wasted due to inefficient use.
- **Food waste** - It's estimated that 30% of the food we produce globally is wasted. If we were to stop food waste it would eliminate 8% of our total global carbon emissions.
- **Packaging waste** - The embodied carbon emissions in packaging also have an impact and we are considering all packaging not just plastic waste.
- **Plant-based meals** - Animal agriculture and intensive farming account for a significant proportion of greenhouse gas emission and we will explore the benefits of increasing plant based meals in school.



Following the workshop your school will choose to focus on at least one of the core themes and will be supported by the Environmental Education Team to develop an action plan and implement changes.

The workshop is primarily aimed at Key Stage 2/3 but can be adapted for other stages. The workshop can be delivered for up to 30 students and would work well for the school's Eco-Team.

For more information please contact:

Amy Peace, Project Officer  
Environmental Education Team

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

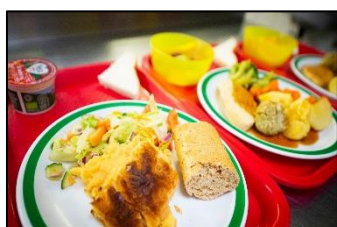
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📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)

📞 0116 454 4543





Is your school  
ready to cut  
down on single-  
use plastics?

**12 million tonnes of plastic are pouring into the ocean every year**

Plastic Free Schools is a system shaking, change making pupil led education programme that gives your students the tools to create positive, lasting environmental change



Sign up to the programme and form a pupil led committee to research single-use plastics at your school

Work towards plastic-free accreditation by creating an action plan to tackle the single-use plastics identified



Reach out to local businesses and community groups and ask them to do the same – help save our oceans!

**Register for free now on the [Plastic Free Schools website](#) to be part of the solution - not the pollution!**



# VotesForSchools – 100,000 Children's voices heard

VotesforSchools aim to get 100,000 children's voices heard.

Each week, VotesforSchools creates resources for teachers to hold a debate or discussion on a topical issue. The children and teenagers then have a chance to vote and comment on the topic. They then share that information with those in authority- hugely raising the profile and impact of pupil voice.

VotesforSchools typically receives around 30,000 votes each week. Examples of resources can be found [here](#), and of data reports [here](#).

In the run up to the United Nations conference on climate change in Glasgow this November, COP26, they are working with a range of partner organisations including THE UK COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF (UNICEF UK) to explore with children climate change and its effect on their rights. There will be a FREE package of resources to facilitate a debate at Primary, Secondary and 16+, and the chance for children and young people to vote and comment on the question:

**'Will climate change affect children's rights?'**

Sign up [here](#) to get your children and young people involved!



**Be informed.**



**Be heard.**



**Be curious.**



*Supports all Eco-Schools topics*

## LOROS

Hospice Care for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland

## LOROS – Rocket Round Leicester



### Want to find out more?

For more information, or to join in with the Litter Pick, contact Emma at [emmabaxter@loros.co.uk](mailto:emmabaxter@loros.co.uk).

LOROS Hospice are over the moon to start their flagship fundraising event, Rocket Round Leicester, this summer. A fleet of 40 giant Rocket sculptures will be displayed in Leicester's biggest art event from **19 July – 26 September**.

Forming an unforgettable 10-week trail across the city's streets and open spaces, these spectacularly decorated sculptures will steer a voyage of discovery like never before. Excitingly, each sculpture has been designed by an incredible artist and sponsored by a local business. Also accompanying the giant Rockets is a fleet of 39 Junior Jets which have been decorated by local schools, colleges and Girl Guide groups.

Each week during the trail will have a different theme. 23-30 August will be our Green Week where we are looking for groups to participate in a sponsored Litter Pick for LOROS. To join in with this, use the contact information to the left!



# Gardening Competition

In May 2021, Lee had the pleasure of being a judge at the annual raised bed gardening competition at Queensmead Academy. Children in each class received £10 to plant and decorate a raised planter outside their classroom. It was fantastic to hear from the students on the inspirations for their amazing designs, from space, to fossils, to the Three Little Pigs! Judging was very difficult and it took a while to come to a final decision. However, Lee was pleased to let Liz Latham, the Headteacher, know the top three winning gardens were:

- 1st – F1 - Rod Campbell Class – Three Little pigs
- 2nd – Jointly – Year 4 - Shaun Tan & Ross Montgomery Classes – Sunflowers
- 3rd – Year 6 Anthony Browne Class – Wildlife area

Here are a selection of photos from the judging. Well done to everyone involved!



*Supports the Eco-schools  
healthy living, biodiversity  
& school grounds topics*

## Message in a Bottle Top programme

Plan inspiring, creative lessons with the brand-new Message in a Bottle Top programme by the National Schools Partnership! Linked to art & design, science, maths and citizenship curriculums, this exciting programme will inspire pupils aged 5-11 to learn about plastic waste and its effect on the environment through exciting art activities!

Register for your vibrant resources on [the programme website](#) and receive:

- An interactive PowerPoint lesson.
- Easy-to-use teacher's delivery guide.
- In class and at home activity sheets.
- Design top tips sheet from artists.
- Exciting competition leaflet.



*Supports curriculum links  
(Step 4) including marine  
and litter topics*



# Green Influencers Scheme

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust (LRWT) are seeking groups of young people (between the ages of 10-14 years) who would like to get involved in the Green Influencers Scheme. This scheme engages with young people (Green Influencers) across England, and promotes youth-led environmental social action. The scheme was set up by The Ernest Cook Trust (a national educational charity) and is match funded with the #iwill Fund, which is supported by The National Lottery Community Fund and Department of Culture, Media & Sport.

The mission of the scheme is to help young people create deep, lasting and meaningful connections with the natural environment. LRWT are a host organisation for the Green Influencers Scheme, and this project, led by LRWT Green Mentor Hannah Keys, will enable Green Influencers to lead the way on youth social action projects within their communities in Leicester, and the surrounding areas. This could involve campaigning, fundraising and volunteering, and will enable young people to make a positive difference, whilst also developing their skills, confidence and knowledge.

The Green Influencer Scheme is in place until January 2023, and the organisers are currently looking to identify groups who are available to start a project in early 2022. If you know of a group of young people who would like to get involved, then they would love to hear from you!



Leicestershire  
& Rutland  
Wildlife Trust

Proudly supporting  
youth social action



Department for  
Digital, Culture  
Media & Sport



COMMUNITY  
FUND



## How to find out more

For more information about the scheme, or to register an interest, please contact Hannah Keys (Green Mentor) at [hkeys@lrwt.org.uk](mailto:hkeys@lrwt.org.uk).

Further information can also be found at [the Ernest Cook Trust website](https://www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk) or [the LRWT website](https://www.lrwt.org.uk).



*Supports all Eco-  
Schools topics*



18 – 26  
September  
2021

# The 3 Engineers



The aim of The3Engineers is to raise awareness of environmental issues and provide content in the form of activity sheets, school resource ideas, and three tailor-made rhyming children's books. The trilogy is called **'The Adventures of Scout'**, with each book seeing Scout discover an environmental problem and exploring the causes behind it.



Currently, Scout has packed her bag to explore the issues of beach plastics, missing bees, and biodiversity decline. The books have also been designed and written to support the UK national Curriculum. Over 100 schools have trailed the book scripts, covering a wide range of lesson plans using the book resources as stimulus. Some recent examples include:

- Reading – aloud in front of an audience and recording, for all levels
- Illustrating the characters and scenes
- ICT skills to create their own version of the stories
- Discussions around the book subjects
- Artist lessons covered by creating themed aquariums to accompany an ocean themed day
- Stop start animations sharing storyboard

Listen to the audiobooks on The3Engineers [website](#) and follow them on their official [Instagram](#) to help fund 25,000 copies of the first book, with the intent to provide a copy to every Early Years and Primary School in the UK.

## Food route: a journey through food

Lunch box audit results		
Food group	Pre audit	Post audit
Starchy carbohydrate	87%	99%
Protein	60%	85%
Fruit and vegetables	47%	62%
Dairy and alternatives	58%	73%
A drink of either water or milk- tooth kind drinks.	41%	56%
A bag of crisps	63%	61%
Chocolate type snacks	76%	73%
Healthy Balance - A choice from each section of the <a href="#">eatwell</a> guide	44%	51%



Food route is a programme commissioned by Leicester City Council in partnership with 'Food for Life' (FFL). Once you have joined Food for Life, Food Route can support your school with:

- Carrying out packed lunch audits and work around healthy packed lunches (virtual option available)
- Working with your School Nutrition Action Groups (SNAG) and staff
- Helping you with healthy changes to packed lunches brought from home
- Offering resources which support you to embed healthy food into school life

### How to find out more

Email: [jill.tipple@lincs.nhs.uk](mailto:jill.tipple@lincs.nhs.uk) or  
phone: 0116 295 0334

Just look at their lunchbox audit results!



**Supports Healthy Living topic**

# BESS Energy Core 2021-22 12 Month Subscription

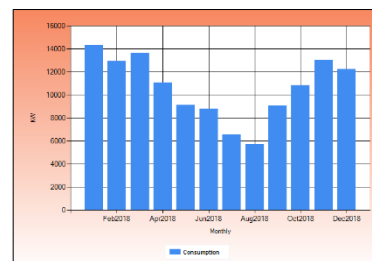
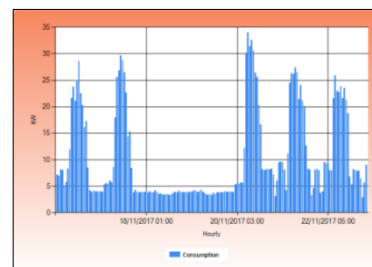
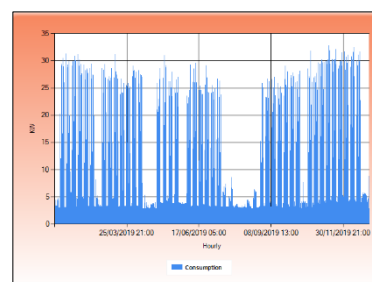
***Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials?***

***Energy and water make up 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** (main meter gas or district heat, water, and electricity) throughout your subscription
- Access to **DynamatLite2050**, the updated 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) *and up to one hour Teams walkthrough of the report*
- **Data report for Academies** – Streamlining Energy and Carbon Reporting (SERC) as required (saving £150)
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider
- **Regular updates** via email and Teams online



*"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:

The BESS Energy team

✉ [BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk)

☎ 0116 454 2271

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

***This service will start in September 2021***

**Price maintained at £495**

**10% reduction for BESS schools**

Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 July 2021 by completing our [online form](#).





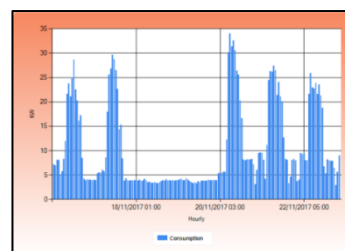
# BESS Energy Enhanced 2021-22 12 Month Subscription



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

***Energy and water make up 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?

*All the benefits of BESS Energy Core:*

- **Monitoring equipment installed and maintained** (main meter gas or district heat, water, and electricity) throughout your subscription
- Access to **DynamatLite2050**, the updated 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), *and up to one hour Teams walkthrough of the report*
- Data report for Academies **Streamlining Energy and Carbon Reporting (SERC)** requirements (saving £150)
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider
- **Regular updates** via email and Teams online

## Plus BESS Energy Enhanced:

- **Identification and reporting** of excessive use/wastage (including visits)
- **Provision of your annual DEC certificate** (or subsidised 7 year DEC certificate)
- Online or face to face training **termly**
- **The equivalent of 2 full days of bespoke support** per school (including technical, analysis and education support for staff and pupils) – *see our separate flyer*

*"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:  
The BESS Energy team**

✉ [BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk)

☎ **0116 454 2271**

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

**Price maintained at £1295**  
**10% reduction for BESS schools**

***This service will start in September 2021***

Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 July 2021 by completing our [online form](#).



*To provide Leicester with a high quality, efficient, effective and sustainable built environment*



# Individual support in BESS Energy Enhanced

Schools and academies that sign up for BESS Energy Enhanced will receive 2 days of bespoke support. This time is allocated and agreed on an individual basis depending on the needs of your school.

Below are examples of bespoke services which can be provided:



## Technical Support

- Work with individual school or academy staff:
  - Premises team walk round to identify heat/energy wastage
  - ICT shutdown procedure and/or software shutdown
  - Advice on purchasing technical support on your Building Energy Management System (BEMS)
  - Additional support and advice for Salix funded projects

## Analysis Support

- Working with the business manager, finance officer and/or premises officer to:
  - Evaluate utility bills for value for money, climate levy and VAT rating
  - Provide advice about changing and comparing tariffs
  - Provide advice and support around historical FIT tariffs
  - Detailed analysis of DynamatLite graphs (daily, weekly) to identify excessive use (e.g. during the day), wastage (e.g. high baseloads overnight and weekends) or leaks (e.g. water).

## Educational Support

- Working with whole school staff:
  - Deliver twilight, inset or staff meetings (typically 30-45 minutes) on energy savings
  - DynamatLite training (data analysis with departments or teams)
  - Develop mechanisms for reporting problems with classroom heating/lighting
- Work with individual classes, your school council and/or Eco-Schools team:
  - Active labelling of lights and equipment that can be switched off/remain on
  - Active thermometers in classrooms and offices to report temperature extremes
  - Assemblies on saving energy
  - Designing of posters or 'corporate' posters displayed around schools
  - Developing whole school policy and shutdown procedure
  - Energy monitoring job descriptions
  - Curriculum activities and quizzes
  - Switch off hour/day campaign
  - Detailed analysis of DynamatLite graphs (daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
  - DynamatLite training
  - Campaign and/or national awareness day activities
  - Audits and competitions (class or department focused)



*To provide Leicester with a high quality, efficient, effective and sustainable built environment*

# Built Environment School Service (BESS) Energy Academies 2021-22 Annual Energy and Carbon Report



From 1 April 2020, academy trusts will need to report on environmental reporting regulations. Regulations require large companies that 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 2020 to 31 August 2021.

[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 Core or BESS Energy Enhanced will receive BESS Energy Academies as part of the product and do not need to purchase twice, saving £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***

**Price maintained at £150 per academy**

**10% reduction for Leicester BESS schools**

**For more information please contact:**

**The BESS Energy team**

✉ [BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:BESS.Energy@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 2021***

**Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 August 2021  
by completing our [online form](#).**



*To provide Leicester with a high quality, efficient, effective and sustainable built environment*

# Clean Air Day – 17 June 2021



Pupils from five Leicester schools took part in a day of activities focusing on improving air quality and encouraging sustainable travel choices!

Timed road closures were put in place on roads outside the schools on Thursday, June 17, to enable activities and events to take place on them as part of national Clean Air Day 2021. Each of the schools also held an active travel day, promoting walking, cycling and scootering to school as an alternative to car use.



At Sandfield Close Primary School, representatives from British Cycling ran balance bike sessions for younger pupils, with other events including badminton in the street, a storyteller, football and other games, plus a visit by Leicester City mascot Filbert Fox and the Premier League trophy.

Spin art, street games, Eco-Schools activities and a smoothie bike from cycling charity Sustrans all added to the fun at Catherine Junior School. Amy and Hollie from the environmental education team also helped to complete earthworm surveys throughout the day!

In Herrick Primary school, activities included fitness sessions, and a Beat The Street walk, surveying litter and fuel use, and using chalk drawings outside to look at how children can help the environment.



Afternoon events took place at St Thomas More Primary School in Knighton, including balance bike sessions, a Beat the Street walk, skipping and parachute games, chalk drawing and other outdoor activities.

At Overdale Junior School in Knighton, classes could choose from a menu including the chance to teach a road safety lesson, creating and displaying bunting encouraging pupils and parents to walk or cycle, creating chalk messages on the road, and acting out how pollution from traffic fumes affects their lungs.



Don't forget to learn and sing the [Clean Air Day song \(YouTube video\)](#)!





Learning  
through  
Landscapes

# Polli:Gen Updates

The Environmental Education Team are working in partnership with Learning through Landscapes on the Polli:Nation for the next Generation (Polli:Gen) project, being delivered from May 2021 to March 2022. Marc and Amy from the team, alongside Hafsa, Jasmine and Graham, the dedicated Polli:Gen project officers, are delivering weekly sessions to 24 schools throughout Leicester.

The project focuses on educating current and future generations on the importance of providing diverse, stable, native wild habitats that support a wide variety of different species of plants and insects and ties into the current curriculum.

By working with children outside in school grounds, the aim is to leave a legacy of improved school grounds that will continue to benefit the school, connect children to wildlife and inspire future study of natural history.

So far, pupils have learnt all about invertebrates (minibeasts) including how to classify them, where they live, what they eat and their importance to pollination. They have also completed habitat, wildflower and pollinator surveys all in preparation for making their school grounds more pollinator friendly in the new academic year, with £750 per school of National Lottery funds!



*Supports the Eco-Schools  
biodiversity topic*

## Braunstone Frith Primary School Forest School/Wildlife Area



**Braunstone Frith**



In June, Lee was able to visit the recently completed Forest School and Wildlife area at Braunstone Frith Primary School. The project (which was delayed due to COVID-19) will be an amazing learning space for students at the school as well as within the Trust. The Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust designed and build the forest school area, pond, planting and amphitheatre area. Funding was received from the local authority via the Sugar Tax Fund which over 30 school received funding for.

If you would like more information, please get in touch with the team at:

[EnvironmentalEducationLeicester@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:EnvironmentalEducationLeicester@leicester.gov.uk)



# Climate Action: Race to Zero Competition

The Roots & Shoots team have another competition to offer - in partnership with Climate Action: Race to Zero, the Climate Force Challenge can help young people finance their innovative environmental projects.

Five winners will get £1,500 by making efforts to cut down on CO<sub>2</sub> within their lifestyles – and here's how:

- Reduce – this might include reducing electricity usage by turning off lights at school/ home or saving water (and hence energy)
- Reuse – this might include using a re-usable water bottle or coffee cup, tupperware instead of clingfilm, etc.
- Recycle – e.g., plastic and glass bottles, cans, textiles, etc. Learn why it is important to recycle properly and how it affects our environment if we don't.
- Plant – Individuals can offset their own CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by planting six trees per month. So, green your local area to offset CO<sub>2</sub> emissions!

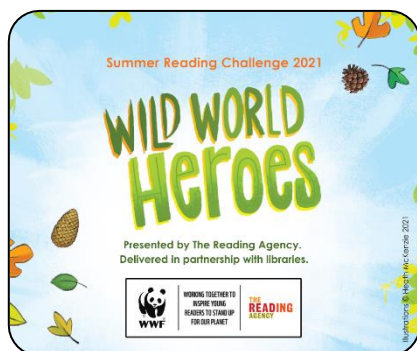


**The deadline is Friday 11 February 2022**, and the winners will be announced on 19 February 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Jasmina Georgovska at [jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk](mailto:jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk)



*Supports several Eco-Schools topics*

## Summer Reading Challenge



**Take part in a wild reading challenge this summer, courtesy of the Wild World Heroes!** Organised by The Reading Agency and delivered by local libraries, this year's summer reading challenge is also being backed by wildlife charity WWF. Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment.

The challenge started in Leicester on 26 June and you can join anytime up until 31 August, with the last day to complete it being 11 September. It's open to children aged 0-15 years, although there is an adult challenge too – called Grown-ups Go Wild Reading!

To take part, simply drop into your local library – most reopened from Monday 21 June – and collect your Wild World Heroes pack from there. The pack includes a specially designed envelope and a 'zine' competition exclusive to Leicester, plus lots more information about the scheme, as well as a poster featuring a map of Wilderville, an exciting place which you can make wilder and more wonderful by collecting stickers to add to it with each book you read.

We also have summer Eco-challenges at <https://schools.leicester.gov.uk/WildWorldHeroes>

# Roles and Responsibilities

With our expanding team we wanted to let you know who is best to contact for each project.  
For all general enquires you can reach all of the team at [Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Eco-Schools@leicester.gov.uk)



**Lee Jowett – Sustainable Schools Coordinator/team leader**  
**[Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Jowett@leicester.gov.uk) / 0116 454 2271**

- Salix funding – Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)
- Coordinating grants, funding and social value opportunities
- Green Fox – Power to Change
- DMU Graduates
- Air Quality Playgrounds
- PFI schools work
- Climate Declarations
- Climate Woods
- BESS Energy
- Beat the Streets

**Amy Peace – Project Officer in Environmental Education (Full-Time)**  
**[Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.Peace@leicester.gov.uk) / 0116 454 4543**

- Lower Carbon Lunches
- Carbon Literacy
- Polli:Gen
- Edible Playgrounds
- Young Peoples' Climate Board
- BESS Energy carbon reports
- eBikes for School staff
- Water Fountain competition
- The Sea Starts Here
- Plastic Free Schools
- Re-Think Food Towers
- Environment Agency SuDs
- Grow Your Own Grub and Pumpkin Competitions



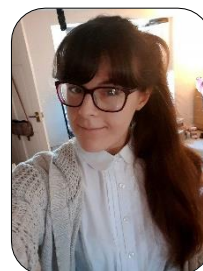
**Marc Tench – Education Officer (Term-time, Monday/Wednesday/Friday)**  
**[Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk) / 0116 454 6746**



- Eco-Schools Awards
- Litter Less
- Ashden Less CO<sub>2</sub>
- Let's Go Zero 2030
- Tree plantings
- BESS Energy – education support
- Tiny Forests
- Salix – education programme
- Reading Challenge workshops
- LOROS Rocket Round Leicester
- Polli:Gen

**Hollie Campbell – Graduate Project Officer in Environmental Education (Full-Time)**  
**[Hollie.Campbell@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Hollie.Campbell@leicester.gov.uk) / 0116 454 4048**

- eBulletins
- Newsletters
- Social media campaigns
- Promoting events
- Carbon Literacy
- BESS Energy carbon reports and support
- Botanica
- Roadshows & Celebration events
- Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots programme



# Salix Programme



The Salix programme is designed to carry out carbon reduction schemes in maintained schools and other council-owned buildings such as libraries and leisure centres, with a total of 93 sites across Leicester. Over the last few weeks, a number of independent site surveys have been carried out at schools and council-owned buildings, which will enable detailed designs for energy efficiency measures such as LED lighting, Photovoltaic panels (PV), Fenestration (window) works, Air Source Heat Pumps, and more. Surveys are now nearing completion, with the remaining few taking place next week. Last month, works took place at Barley Croft Primary School and Marriott Primary School to replace existing lighting with more energy efficient LED lighting.

We have recently been in touch with some project sites that are due to have LED lighting installed to replace existing lighting as part of the Salix programme. The Salix Project Team are now arranging works pre-start meetings between these sites and the City Council's LED contractors, Energy Saving Lighting (ESL).

Each site has a dedicated project manager (Alan Evans or John Squires), however if you have a general question or need to get in touch with the Salix Project Team email us at [Salix.Project.Team@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Salix.Project.Team@leicester.gov.uk)



A selection of LED lights - before, after and during installation



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