

# School News

January 2024



## What is Sustainable Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Sustainable Schools team based in the Energy & 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 (LOT) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOT provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.

Welcome to the January 2024 Leicester Sustainable Schools newsletter.

We hope you all had a well-deserved break over the Christmas holidays, and we are looking forward to working with you again this year.

Now that schools are getting back into full swing, we are preparing for the next year of sustainable workshops, training sessions, virtual assemblies, and events!

Take a look at our updated calendar for the 2023/24 school year for an overview of things happening.

As always, get in touch if you need any support - Marc, Jasmine, Laura and Molly.



## How to find out more Sustainable Schools Team

City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1FZ

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

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

[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)

[EcoSchoolsLCC](#)

[EnvEducationLeicester](#)

0116 454 6746



Pictures from our Eco-Roadshow in November 2023

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

# Dates for your diary – Eco events this year



We now have an [annual calendar](#) with all the date for the academic year on.

Event Details	Date	Month
Energy Sparks training	Wednesday 17	January
Energy Sparks training	Tuesday 23	January
Carbon Literacy training	Wednesday 24	January
Big Garden Birdwatch	Friday 26	January
Eco-Schools Training Session 2	Friday 2	February
World Wetlands Day	Friday 2	February
National Nestbox Week	14-21	February
World Wildlife day virtual assembly	Friday 1	March
Grow Your Own Grub sign up deadline	Friday 15	March
Earth Hour	Saturday 23	March
Carbon Literacy training	Thursday 18	April
Teach Earth Teacher Training Programmer – online webinar	Wednesday 17	April
Earth Day virtual assembly	Monday 22	April
Eco-Schools Training Session 3	Monday 29	April
Walk to School Week	Monday 20	May
Teach Earth Teacher Training Programme - in-person training at Queensmead Primary School	Tuesday 21	May
World Environment Day	Wednesday 5	June
Great Big Green Week	8-16	June
Eco-Schools Celebration	Thursday 27	June
Grown Your Own Grub Celebration	Saturday 6	July

- [Leicester - staff training/information](#)
- [Leicester - student activities/events](#)
- [National events](#)

## 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 5 April 2024**. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo, and contact details e.g. name and email address to: [SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk)

## Staff updates



We are pleased to announce that we have a new member of the team – Jasmine Walker, who is our new Project Officer. Jasmine has joined our team of four alongside Marc Tench - Sustainable Schools Manager, Laura Barke - Education Officer, and Molly Laycock -Project Officer.

Jasmine has previously worked with schools in Leicester on the Polli:Gen Project. She has already been busy working with schools involved in the WWF project, getting stuck into hedge planting and hedgehog sessions!

There have been some changes to roles and responsibilities within our team. If you are used to dealing with a particular member of the Sustainable Schools team, feel free to contact them. We are a close-knit bunch and will happily respond and pass you on to the most relevant person!

Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or requests for support.



## Climate Emergency Consultation Extended



On 1 February 2019, Leicester City Council declared a Climate Emergency. In its declaration, the council committed to developing a new action plan to address the emergency through our own services and projects.

### Have your say!

Leicester City Council has extended its public consultation on our new Climate Emergency Action Plan and is very keen for schools to take part. The survey has been extended to allow more time for responses and is open until Sunday 28th January on our website. For more details and access to the questionnaire use the link to the [Climate Emergency Consultation](#)

**The deadline for the consultation is Sunday 28 January**





# Eco-Schools updates and awards



## Eco-School Green Flag awards

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

Green Flags are renewed on an **annual basis with an application window open from 1 May until 31 July every year.**

The online application form is continuing for this year, with options to apply for Merit and Distinction on top of your Eco-Schools Green Flag award.

Leicester City Council will subsidise the cost of the Eco-Schools Green Flag, making it £50 per school.

## Unitary Authority of the Year 2023!

We are thrilled to announce that Leicester City Council have come out as the top performing unitary authority of the 2022-2023. Last year we support 60 schools across Leicester City to achieve their Green Flag accreditation. This year, we are hoping to support even more of you!

## Eco-Schools Primary School of the Year: Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy

A huge well done to Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy on being selected as the Primary School of the Year for Eco-Schools 2022-2023. Eco-Schools have said that "Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy placed pupils at the forefront of their Eco-Schools work, delivering a variety of initiatives that created positive impacts for our environment. Pupils' energy, enthusiasm and drive was inspirational to all as they wholeheartedly reduced waster, used less energy, promoted active travel, saved water and supported biodiversity. Most impressively, their Eco-Schools work have been able to change attitudes and bring their whole school together, with several parents commenting that their children talk passionately about environmental issues and always give them a polite ticking off if they are not behaving sustainably.



**Sacred Heart  
Voluntary  
Academy  
students at our  
Eco-Schools  
celebration**

# Eco-Schools Training Session 2

## Green Flag Application

**FREE in person Training course:**  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, 1.00 – 3.30pm

**Venue –TBC\* if you would like to host at your school, please let us know!**

[Sign Up Here](#)

*This training is open to both attendees of earlier training sessions and those who did not attend.*

### **This training will:**

Offer guidance and advice for how to apply or renew your Green Flag Award using the Eco-Schools portal.

One consistent piece of feedback from school staff is that you need time to complete the application. In response to this we will dedicate a significant chunk of the training **to giving you time to start or complete the application with support from the Sustainable Schools Team**

Discussion on how to move forward next year, plan for more environmental action, and gain an Eco-Schools Green Flag with **Merit or Distinction.**



**In Leicester there are now 56 schools with the prestigious Green Flag Award putting us at number one in England for the fifth year in a row!**

### **Who would benefit from this course?**

This training is aimed at staff who are new to Eco-Schools or those who would like a refresher on the process. This could be Eco-leads and all school staff with an interest in environmental education - heads, deputy heads, assistant heads, classroom teachers, TAs, support staff, premises officers, business managers and governors/trustees.

### **For more information please contact:**

**Laura Barke on**  
[laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)

**Sustainable Schools Team**

✉ [SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SustainableSchools@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



# Carbon Literacy Training for School Staff, Governors & Trustees



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 the aim of the city becoming zero carbon.

In order to raise awareness of the climate emergency, we are using the Carbon Literacy Project as a way of accrediting school staff in becoming Carbon Literate. By 2025, the DfE have said that each school will have a sustainability lead who will have taken part in Carbon Literacy Training. By joining us, you will help put your school ahead of the rest!

## In Person:

Date: 18 April 2024

Time: 9:00 – 4:00

Location: Thursday 18 April – Gateway College

Sign up using the [eForm](#).

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



## Why participate?

- Gain a **better understanding of how climate change will affect you and those around you**
- **Become an accredited Carbon Literate individual**
- Acquire knowledge and skills to develop your own responses to lowering your carbon footprint, and the carbon footprint of others

## Your commitments

- Create at least **one significant action, as an individual**, to reduce your own personal carbon footprint
- Create at **least one significant action involving other people** to reduce the collective footprint of your workplace, community or place of education
- **Encourage your school to participate in Carbon Literacy**

Carbon Literacy Training -  
2023/2024



*The cost of the training course is £30 for school staff/governors or £50 for non-school staff and staff outside of Leicester City. This includes the individual and course accreditation fees from the Carbon Literacy Project.*

# Leicester's Grow Your Own Grub Mealbarrow Competition 2024



Now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year, Leicester's Grow Your Own Grub Mealbarrow competition is a great way to encourage food growing in the school community. New for 2024, we have introduced a 'herb theme' to the event, meaning you need to be planting and including herbs in your menu!



**What's changed?** This year, we are asking all schools to include herbs in their "mealbarrows" and menu design. Think basil, thyme, coriander, and mint for example!

## Why participate?

- Combining creative culinary skills and gardening, your school is challenged to design a three-course menu and grow a minimum of 5 ingredients in your Mealbarrow.
- Mealbarrows will be showcased at a public event on **Saturday 6 July 2024**. This is a great way to involve the whole school community!
- Raise awareness of environmentally friendly gardening, healthy eating, and cooking in your school. Use as part of your Food for Life and Eco-Schools Awards
- Free food growing training for school staff to take part in.



## School commitments

- Source a wheelbarrow for the growing – either reuse one from last year or upcycle an old one (ask around in school or get in touch if you are struggling)
- Create a "mealbarrow" where at least 5 food items will be grown)
- Provide compost, seeds and/or plug plants to grow (*some seeds provided after the training*)
- Attend a free virtual food growing training on **Monday 18 March 2024**
- Design and submit a healthy 3-course menu by **Friday 17 May 2024**
- Submit a simple report on the growing process
- Advertise the competition and the celebration day to parents & families via school newsletters and the school's social media channels



Supports your Eco-Schools *healthy living, school grounds and biodiversity* topics

This event is **free and open to all schools in Leicester City and our Leicestershire Traded Service Schools**

Deadline for entries is Friday 15 March 2023 and will be filled on a first-come basis  
Book your school's place via [this E-form](#) as soon as possible to confirm.  
Any questions please email [GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk](mailto:GrowYourOwnGrub@Leicester.gov.uk)



# Leicester's Urban Nature Project



Leicester's Urban Nature Project, funded by Air Wick in partnership with WWF, is working with 13 schools in Leicester City and Leicestershire to create valuable habitats for wildlife in their school grounds.

The project will create ponds, and hedgerows, and install nest boxes. These habitats will help to support our key species of hedgehogs, swifts, redstarts, reptiles, and amphibians.



Hedge planting at  
Hallam Fields  
Primary School



Practicing wildlife  
identification at  
Lancaster Academy

We're really excited to be running this project with schools, as it fits into Leicester's Biodiversity Action Plan through habitat enhancement and creating awareness and understanding among students about the importance of biodiversity.



For more information on this project please see our extranet page - [School's Extranet \(leicester.gov.uk\)](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-extranet/)



# Leicester's Urban Nature Project



The project is off to an exciting start – hedgerows have been planted at Ellesmere College, Rolleston Primary School, and Hallam Fields Primary School.

Students at the hedgehog champion schools have started learning about wildlife in their school grounds.

In the New Year they will be making changes to make their grounds better for hedgehogs.



Before hedge planting at Rolleston Primary School



After hedge planting at Rolleston Primary School

## Participating schools:

Buswells Lodge Primary School  
Green Lane Infant School  
Queensmead Primary Academy  
Montrose School  
Ellesmere College  
Linden Primary School  
Hallam Fields Primary Fields  
Mowmacre Hill Primary School  
Rolleston Primary School

## Hedgehog Champion

### Schools:

Sir Jonathan North  
St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary  
Academy  
Lancaster Academy

For more information on this project please see our extranet page - [School's Extranet \(leicester.gov.uk\)](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-extranet/)



# Energy Sparks



Energy Sparks are an online platform which monitor schools' gas and electricity consumption. The platform includes an educational programme which can be used with classes or small groups of children, such as your eco-committee. Energy Sparks can help to reduce carbon emissions and work towards addressing the climate emergency.

**We are hosting a Leicester-focused training session** on how to use Energy Sparks and how using Energy Sparks can support you in achieving your Eco-Schools Green Flag award.

**Training: 4.00 -5:00 pm on 17 January and 23 January**

(You only need to attend one)

Training will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams

Who would benefit from this training? All school staff involved in using Energy Sparks, including eco-leads, business managers and premises officers, within Leicester City

## How can Energy Sparks help you?

- Using smart meter data, Energy Sparks will show you how much energy your school uses.
- Pupils and staff can use information to help save energy
- A scoreboard is in place for schools to compare energy savings with other schools nearby.
- Online, email and text notification of changes in energy consumption, with recommended energy saving actions tailored just for your school.
- Energy saving interventions and investments are suggested to maximise cost and energy savings.
- Over 70 energy related activities for eco-teams or class-based learning.
- Activities can also count towards your Eco-Schools Green Flag award!

Last year your school used 280,000 kWh of gas

It will take 66 trees, each living 40 years, to absorb the carbon dioxide released when this gas was burnt.



Find out how much energy has been used



Let's look at the energy use data for your school:



Sustainable  
Schools  
LEICESTER



To sign up for the training session, please complete [the Eform](#)  
If you would like more information, please contact  
[Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)

# Sustainable Schools Virtual Assemblies

The Sustainable Schools team will be holding another series of virtual assemblies to coincide with environmental events throughout the school year!

Our virtual assemblies will all be held at **1:30pm via Microsoft Teams** on the following dates:

- ❖ [National Tree Week - Tuesday 28 November](#)
- ❖ [World Wildlife Day – Friday 1 March](#)
- ❖ [Earth Day – Monday 22 April](#)



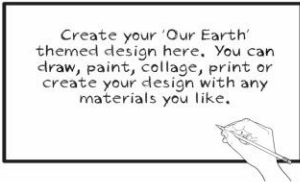
The assemblies will last approximately 20 minutes and there will be time for questions at the end  
There is no need to sign up – just use the links above to join at the time!

# Insect Collective Competition

## 'Our Earth' Postcard Competition

- Free to enter
- Suitable for anyone under 18
- All postcards submitted will be exhibited at Highcross Shopping Centre, Leicester in our exhibition 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Prizes for the best three, judged by exhibition visitors.

Front



Stick a stamp here



Back

### HOW IT WORKS

Draw your design on a 6 inch x 4 inch piece of card.

Your design should be earth or environment themed.

Write on the back about a local environment topic that matters to you.

Sign it on the back with your full name, age and school.

Address it to your local MP or councillor. Remember to stick on a stamp!

Send it to us in an envelope before Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Insecta Collective CIC  
56 Sylvan Street,  
Leicester,  
LE3 9GT

Our address



We display it, then post it to your MP or councillor.

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[www.insectacollective.com](http://www.insectacollective.com)

## Free Trees for schools and communities

Woodland Trust wants everybody in the UK to have the chance to plant a tree! They are giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities. All schools, colleges and nurseries in the UK can apply.

**The UK needs millions more trees to reach its 2050 carbon net-zero target!**

Choose your pack(s) from the list [here](#) and fill out our application form.

Applications for tree packs are expected to close in January, so act quickly!

[Apply here - Free Tree Packs Application Form](#)

# RETHINK FOOD TOWER

We have food towers available to rent for the spring and summer terms.

Our sustainable school team will set up the tower, supply materials, provide training and guides for staff, and deliver a workshop for students. We recently delivered a workshop focused on the UN's sustainable development goals.

## Food tower prices

- £250 per term
- £600 per year (3 terms)

- 🍏 Encourage children to eat more fruit and veg!
- 🍏 Teach children how to grow their own food!
- 🍏 Empower children with sustainable knowledge!



## Quote from Linden Primary School

*Our class really enjoyed taking part in the food tower project. We were able to see how food can be grown indoors in such a short time and how this could be a potential solution in the future, if land continues to be taken away for housing, development and animal farming.*

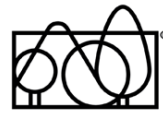
*Planting the saplings in the tower (that had been grown separately for 2 weeks) and 8 weeks later*



For further information please email [Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)



# Tiny Forests in Leicester



We are really pleased to announce that we have received funding from the Local Authority Treescapes Funding for another planting season, meaning we can add a further 6 Tiny Forests to sites in Leicester. We have already planted one Tiny Forest at Gateway College this winter season, bringing our total of Tiny Forests in Leicester to 21! This year, we will be planting the first Tiny Forest in a public spaces within Leicester (Willowbrook Park). This planting day will be open to the local community, and we will be looking for volunteers to help maintain the space. This is an excellent opportunity to be involved with Tiny Forests so please do get in touch if you are interested in finding out more.



## Becoming a Tree Keeper!

### How can you get involved?

The best way to get involved in the Tiny Forest project is to sign up as a Tree Keeper for one of the forests within Leicester. This way, you can be involved in looking after the site and gain access to a wealth of knowledge from Earthwach! There are educational resources available on the portal along with a wealth of knowledge. This way, even if your site does not have space for a forest, you can be involved in this important project! To find out more visit the [Earthwach website](https://www.earthwach.org).

### What is a Tiny Forest?

A Tiny Forest is a dense, fast growing nature woodland roughly the size of a tennis court. Each forest consists of 600 trees specifically selected for the site meaning each Tiny Forest is unique. Benefits to the Tiny Forest programme include reconnecting people with nature, enhancing wellbeing, helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change and providing nature-rich habitat patches to support urban wildlife.

### New sites for 2023/2024

- Gateway College
- Inglehurst Junior School
- The City of Leicester College
- Judgemeadow Community College
- Tudor Grange Samworth Academy
- Willowbrook Park

For more information about Tiny Forests, or to sign up as a Tree Keeper, please contact Laura on

[Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)



Supports the Eco-Schools School grounds and biodiversity topics



# TEACH EARTH

Teacher Training  
Programme

## Free Teacher Training for Leicester's educators

Teach Earth is a 4-part free CPD opportunity by Earthwatch Education designed to build your knowledge and confidence in leading inspiring and sustained environmental and outdoor education.

**Workshop 1:** Introduction webinar, 17th April, 3.30–5pm, online;

**Workshop 2:** Full-day in-person training, 21st May, 9.30am–3.30pm, Queensmead Primary Academy;

**Workshop 3:** Action workshop, 18th June, 3.30–5pm, online;

**Workshop 4:** Action workshop, 18th September, 3.30–5pm, online.

Scan the QR code to find out  
more and register!

**earthwatch**  
education



# The Big Walk and Wheel

Sustrans' Big Walk and Wheel is the UK's largest inter-school walking, wheeling, scooting, and cycling challenge. It inspires pupils to make active journeys to school to improve air quality in their neighbourhood.

**This year, the Big Walk and Wheel is taking place from 11th-22nd March 2024.**

Travelling actively and sustainably has never been so important, it helps pupils arrive at school alert and ready to start the day and helps create a more welcoming environment around the school. The Big Walk and Wheel is a great kickstart to the spring term, many pupils carry on travelling actively into the school year and beyond.

The 2023 challenge was a huge success, 19 Leicester schools took part recording over 29,000 journeys, contributing to over 2.6 million journeys recorded nationwide. Catherine Junior School came 6<sup>th</sup> in the large primary category with 98.3% and Madani Boys came 4<sup>th</sup> overall in the secondary category. With your help, we can make this year even bigger!

All schools can take part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel and it is free to register and easy to participate. **School registration opens in January**, visit the dedicated [Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel website](https://www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk) and follow the instructions.

There are some fantastic prizes awarded to schools taking part, one awarded for each day of the challenge and for the schools who log the most active journeys overall. Check out the website to see last year's prizes!

There are many free interactive resources available, designed to be fun, flexible, and informative on how small changes can make a big difference!



If you have any questions or would like any more information, don't hesitate to get in touch by emailing - [leicesterschools@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:leicesterschools@sustrans.org.uk)

<https://bigwalkandwheel.org.uk/>



# Nation Education Nature Park and Climate Action Awards

The National Education Nature Park and Climate Action Awards aim to empower children and young people to make a positive difference to both their own and nature's future.

There are lots of free resources for children of all ages on the site [Resources](#) | [Education Nature Park](#)

The Climate Action Awards will recognise schools and colleges who have brought about change and support their students in developing green skills, championing nature and working towards a sustainable future!



## Clean Air Day

**Clean air day is on June 15, 2024, so save the date!**

Last year:

- More than 4,000 pupils and teachers in Leicester engaged in Clean Air Day. 4 Schools held road closures, 7 schools promoted a car-free/active travel day
- LCC and Sustrans delivered assemblies about Clean Air Day and/or air pollution to 5 schools
- 5 schools self-delivered clean air-themed assemblies.
- Schools took part in activities such as a walking bus, seed planting, litter picking and chalk art
- 100% of schools agree that the road closure made a positive impact to the school run.
- 80% of schools agree that their school run felt safer.



# Why Save Soil?

## Workshops/Talks

Dear Colleagues,

**SaveSoil** is a global movement to increase soil health, biodiversity, combat climate change and much more...see links below!

Supported by Leicester's Sustainable Schools Mgr, Deputy City Mayor (Climate,Economy+Culture) & several local councillors!

Over 25 schools have had a FREE workshop. Would you like one too?

Please watch [this 6 minute video](#) - a movement that has reached 3.9 billion people so far and has the support of Jane Goodall DBE, The Dalai Lama, Will.i.am...amongst many others!

Age (yrs)	Format	Content	Duration (mins)
6 to 11	Workshop or Assembly Talk	Fun, interactive and engaging; questions, experiments, short clips - What is soil? Why is it important? What's happening to it? What can we do about it?	60 15-30
12 to 15	Workshop or Talk	As above with added discussions, group exercises, facts/trivia  Talk: PP slides, video clip, action points	60 15-20
16+	Talk or Workshop	Talk: PP slides, video clip, action points  Workshop: As above talk with discussion, group exercises, facts/trivia	20 60

A STEM Ambassador with over 25yrs experience of working with children and young people.

Want to know more? Please get in touch:)



Certified Carbon Literate



**Shiv Amano**  
STEM Ambassador  
Carbon Literate

07904 86 83 82  
mrshivamano@gmail.com



[SaveSoil.org](http://SaveSoil.org)

Thriving, living soil is vital to life.



# Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots programme is a global education programme for schools. The aim is to make positive change happen – for our communities, for animals, and for the environment. With tens of thousands of young people in over 60 countries, the Roots & Shoots network branches out across the globe, connecting youth of all ages who share a common desire to help make our world a better place.

There are no rigid requirements and no limit to your imagination with the projects! You can use **Eco-Schools projects** for this too!

**All you need to do is sign up and provide evidence (e.g. pictures) of your school's eco projects!**

**Please see the website for more information on this [rootsnshoots.org.uk](https://rootsnshoots.org.uk)**

**There are three overall awards categories for the best school projects to commend your hard work!**

**Bronze Award:**

All schools that submit a project post will automatically be eligible for a Bronze Award certificate personalised with the details of your school.

**Silver Award:**

Projects that show special merit and initiative will be awarded a personalised Silver Award certificate. Both Bronze and Silver award winners will be considered for Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Annual Award and you may be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony.

**Gold Award:**

Projects that incorporate work on all three aspects of Roots & Shoots (people, animals, and the environment) will be awarded a personalised Gold Award certificate. The schools who have submitted these projects will be automatically invited to the Roots & Shoots Annual Award Ceremony where students will have the opportunity to present their projects and meet Dr Jane Goodall in person.



*Photos credit: Andover Trees United (ATU). Harrow Way Community School and Portway Junior School are Roots & Shoots members through partnership with ATU.*

**To get involved please contact either Jasmina Georgovska at [jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk](mailto:jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk) or Molly Laycock at [molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)**

# Plastic Clever Schools



As we start the new academic year, we are really pleased to say that there are over 40 schools in Leicester currently registered on the Plastic Clever Schools website. This means we have a huge opportunity to reduce problem plastics in Leicester!

## What does Plastic Clever Schools involve?

There are three stages to the programme:

1. Inspire – hold a litter pick and share why YOU want to be a Plastic Clever School
2. Investigate – look at the use of plastic in your school and create an action plan
3. Act – Take steps to reduce 2 problem plastics in your school and celebrate YOUR success!

There are brand new resources available on the online platform, including workbooks for students, resources for teachers and a display board showing success stories from schools across the countries.

## How can you join?

Simply sign up online through the Plastic Clever Schools [website](#). Work through the stages and start reducing your schools plastic waste now!

All of the work you do for Plastic Clever Schools can be used to support your Green Flag application!

For more information about the award, please contact Laura on [Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk).



Inspire



Investigate



Act



Supports the Eco-Schools water, litter, waste and marine topics

