

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

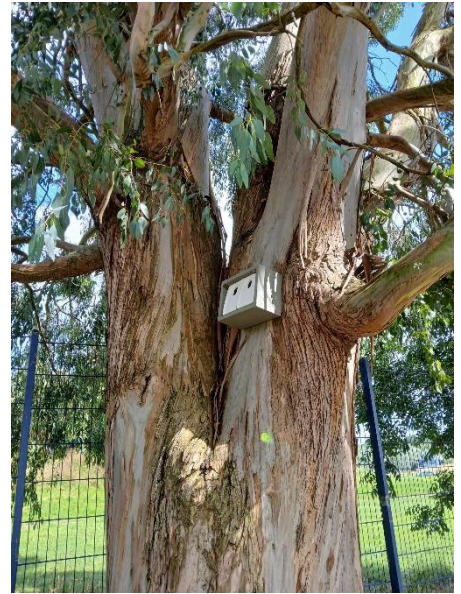
We have lots of exciting events and training planned for the next few months so read on to find out more!

Schools involved in our Wildlife Friendly Schools Project have been doing lots this month, including pond dipping, planting, and creating wildflower patches!

Upcoming events and competitions:

Carbon Literacy Training – **Thursday 10 October**

Eco-Schools Roadshow – **November**



A nest box installed as part of the Wildlife Friendly Schools Project

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

Marc.Tench@leicester.gov.uk

Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk

Jasmine.Walker@leicester.gov.uk

Follow us on Social Media

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



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



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



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



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



schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools



SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk

Eco-Schools Roadshow

We are excited to announce that our annual Eco-Schools Roadshow is back for another year, with some new and exciting workshops taking place – [book now](#) to avoid disappointment!

Tuesday 5 November 2024	Rushey Mead Academy
Wednesday 6 November 2024	Sir Jonathan North
Thursday 7 November 2024	Millgate School
Thursday 14 November 2024	Castle Mead Academy
Friday 22 November 2024	Gateway College



Workshops include **National Education Nature Park: Connecting with nature through the Nature Park**; **Twycross Zoo: Consider Conservation**; **Sustrans: The Right to Clean Air**; **Plastic Clever Schools: How to become Plastic Clever**; **The National Space Centre: Sustainability and Satellites**

Borrow Litter Picking Equipment

Thanks to Community Ward funding for our Less Litter for Leicester project, we now have adult and children's litter picking kits available for schools to borrow. We have 4 adult sets, and 3 children's sets.

The kits include:

- 15 pickers
- 15 gloves
- 8 hoops

These are available to borrow for on a half termly basis.

If you would like a loan of litter picking equipment, please fill out this [eForm](#) with the size of litter pickers you would like. Please note this is subject to availability.



Our Schools, Our World

There are a few remaining spaces on the **“Our Schools, Our World”** programme for Leicester primary, infant, and junior schools. Funded through Lets Go Zero, Our Schools, Our World is a programme of support for 20 schools in the city to integrate environmental education into the curriculum and develop systems and practices which support sustainability. In their Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy the DfE have stated **“By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan”**, to help embed sustainability in all they do. Our School, Our World offers you the support to put this into place as well as preparing our young people for a changing world. Sign up and find out more [here](#).

The Tree Council – Trees and More Project Pack

Applications are open until the end of October for schools to receive the trees, technology, in school support and training to develop your outdoor learning curriculum and lasting connections between your pupils and nature.

[Trees and More Project Pack - Tree Council's Young Tree Champions](#)



Nature in Leicester's Parks – FREE book for schools!



Leicester Friends of the Earth volunteers recently investigated how much wildlife was living in the City's parks. From this, they have put

together a booklet showcasing all the wonderful wildlife living in 7 of the parks in Leicester. These parks are Hamilton, Spinney Hill, Evington, Humberstone, Willowbrook, Stokeswood and Appleton. The booklet includes illustrations from local artists, descriptions of the parks and even an I-Spy challenge relating to nature in the parks.

The volunteers at Leicester Friends of the Earth are aiming to encourage as many people as possible engage with nature on their doorsteps (and in the local parks!) by sharing the booklet far and wide. There are a limited number of booklets currently available, but the volunteers are looking to get more printed ready for springtime.

To register for a copy for your school, please contact Hannah by the end of this term on h.r.wakely@googlemail.com and let her know how many copies you would like – she will be compiling the list of orders.

Nature in Leicester's Parks



Let's Go Zero Free Webinar: Creating your Climate Action Plan

The DfE has set the expectation that by 2025, all schools and education settings have a Climate Action Plan. To help you navigate this initiative effectively, Leicester City Council have partnered with Let's Go Zero. Introducing Climate Action Advisor's Jelly Moring and Jo Pettifer from Let's Go Zero, who will be providing an insight into the DfE guidance and assist in helping your school to create a bespoke Climate Action Plan relevant to your setting. During the session there will be an opportunity to network with other schools in Leicester in break out rooms. There will also be time to ask questions and receive expert advice.

Date: Tuesday 29th October 2024

Time: 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Register here: [Lets Go Zero, Climate Action Advisors Webinar \(office.com\)](https://www.lets-go-zero.com/office.com)

Carbon Literacy Project

We have been using the Carbon Literacy Project for the last 5 years to raise awareness of the climate emergency, as a way of accrediting school staff to become 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! Our next sessions are in person on Thursday 10 October 2024; Tuesday 4 February 2025; Friday 16 May 2025 9am – 4pm at City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester. Complete the [eForm](#) to book your space or for more information, contact Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk.

Carbon Literacy Project



Orchards

Leicester has several community orchards in parks and open spaces where you can pick fruit for free! Why not bring a class or an eco group to your local orchard and pick some fruit! Find our more [here](#). For primary school lesson plans to teach students about orchards, food-growing, and sustainable food systems, look at The Orchard Project's [website](#).



Climate Action Advisors with Lets Go Zero

Are you a school interested in sustainability? The [@LetsGo Zero](#) campaign funds FREE Climate Action Advisors – a network of sustainability experts helping schools become zero carbon!

The advisors:

- ✓ Assist schools in meeting the DfE's 2025 target for a Sustainability Lead and Climate Action Plan
- ✓ Provide tailored support to develop comprehensive plans addressing energy, water, waste, transport, food, nature, and more
- ✓ Help schools join the dots and tackle full-scope emissions

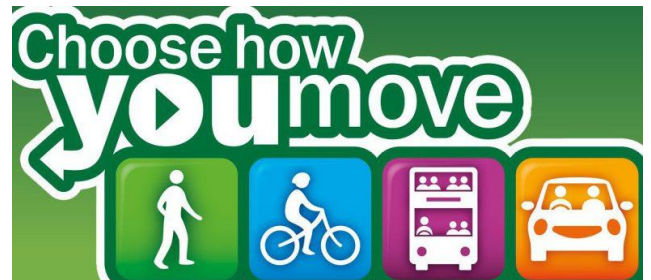
Sign your school up today: <https://letsgozero.org/climate-action-advisors/>



Travel to school webpage survey for schools

LCC's Active Travel team are looking for three schools to pilot a new project that helps schools to raise awareness of sustainable travel to school.

The Active Travel team will assist three schools in updating or creating a new webpage, on their website that acts as a hub for sustainable travel information, relevant to the school, for parents/ carers, pupils and teachers.



Is your school Interested? Please complete the survey <https://forms.office.com/e/1E8m0PXAjD> by Friday 11 October 2024.

Why join the National Education Nature Park?

1. Join a network of 27 educational settings in Leicester that have already begun taking action for nature.
2. Improve the biodiversity of your Climate Action Plan.
3. Develop your outdoor learning practice and connect young people with nature using our free resources.

Improvements can be big or small... Cottons Farm Primary School in Derby made some big changes to a grey courtyard while Tudor Grange started with a small green roof.



Getting started: This half-term is a great time to get out and explore your school grounds by taking part in the [Hidden Nature Challenge](#). Montrose Primary School in Leicester made 125 nature discoveries! Can you find more?

Register for free: [Home](#) | [Education Nature Park](#)

Or to find out more contact: eastmidlandsnaturepark@ltl.org.uk

British Science Association CREST Opportunities

1. British Science Association's (BSA) Engage Teacher Network

The British Science Association's Engage Network supports teachers working in schools under challenging circumstances.

The logo features the text 'Our Engage community' in a sans-serif font. 'Engage' is enclosed in a dark blue rounded rectangle, and the entire text is set against a light green background with a subtle geometric pattern.

By joining the network for **FREE** you can:

- apply for funding grants to support delivery of practical science in your school
- access free resources and the annual conference and be first to hear about exclusive offers
- Network with teachers to share ideas.

Engage Funding grants open for application 19th Sept until 15th Oct 2024

<https://www.crestawards.org/engage>

2. Grants for British Science Week – open soon

British Science Week/Kick Start grants open 17th Sept 2024

<https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/grants/kick-start-grant-scheme/>



3. Webinar for CREST Silver & Gold Award applicants

4pm Friday 20th September

Who should attend?

- Students submitting independent project work for a Silver or Gold CREST Award
- Students submitting project work undertaken as part of CREST aligned schemes and work placements (including Nuffield Research Placements)
- Teachers supporting students that are planning to submit project work for Silver and Gold Awards.



[Click here to register](#)

Green Skills Unlocked

Enrol in the FREE Green Skills Unlocked online course and help prepare your students for future careers by bringing Green Skills to life.

[Green Skills Unlocked | Energising Futures](#)

Games for Change Student Challenge

Get your students involved in a game desing competition that invites youth to create digital games inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The Program uses youth interest in video games to develop coding and digital desnig skills, as well as probalem sovling, collagboation, creativity, and other critical STEAM skills.

[National Games for Change Student Challenge](#)

Calling all pumpkin carvers

The annual Stokes Wood Pumpkin Smash is back!

Millions of pumpkins are bought for Halloween, but scarily 18,000 tonnes of edible pumpkin end up in the bin each year. Encourage your students to have a greener Halloween and get involved in the 2024 Stokes Wood Pumpkin Smash.

Stokes Wood allotment will be collecting carved pumpkins after Halloween, 'smashing' them into smaller pieces and turning them into a nutritious compost, saving hundreds of pumpkins from the bin.

Public pumpkin smash

When: 10:30am - 12:30pm on Saturday 9th November

Where: Stokes Wood Allotment, Stokes Drive, Leicester, LE3 9BR

Find out more: Carryoncomposting1@gmail.com



You can get involved in a variety of ways:

- Encourage your students to drop their old pumpkins off at Stokes Wood allotment, any time up until the day of the smash.
- Promote the public Pumpkin Smash to students and their parents – all are welcome to attend the free event.
- Arrange a pumpkin collection at your school. For larger collections, someone from the allotments may be available to come and collect the pumpkins - contact Carryoncomposting1@gmail.com for more details.
- Arrange a FREE visit to the allotment, where students can get their hands dirty 'smashing' pumpkins and learn more about the composting process - contact Carryoncomposting1@gmail.com to book. **School bookings are subject to availability as slots are limited.**

Plastic Clever Schools – International Day of Action

Plastic Clever Schools puts kids at the heart of waste reduction. Join schools around the world for an International Day of Action with an inspiring assembly, expert workshop and fun activities to kick-start school-wide action for a future freed from plastic. Sign up and find out more [here](#).



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Our mailing address is:

Leicester City Council – Sustainability and Energy Team
115 Charles St,
Leicester LE1 1FZ
United Kingdom

To unsubscribe, please click email Jasmine.Walker@leicester.gov.uk

