

Green flag congratulations

2022 report Congratulations On Passing Your Eco-Schools Green Flag!

Congratulations!!!

Fantastic work Dr Pickup ! We are very pleased to tell you that you and your Eco-Committee at Futures Institute Banbury have been awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag. We reviewed your application and noted the following:



We like your approach to appointing the Eco-Committee members whereby you asked for volunteers and used a voting system in form classes if needed. It is wonderful to hear that the children have developed their confidence and skills in leadership, active citizenship and how to work in a team! It is clear that your approach to the Eco-Committee demonstrates a proactive, inclusive and educational approach to the programme. It is impressive to see!

We also like how your Eco-Committee communicates their work in a variety of ways. For example, it is great to hear that you use your lovely Eco-Board, social media, posters, class discussions, weekly assemblies and mentor time. This approach shows how valued and embedded the ideas underpinning the Eco-Schools programme are in your school! It was really great to read how your Environmental Review provided the basis for the projects in your Action Plan and helped you identify the areas you need to focus on. We like that you say that the students were so involved in the review process. Your inclusive and educational approach to the process demonstrates a reflective and considered approach to your Eco-Schools work - this is a great skill that we can all learn from!

You've clearly taken great efforts to connect your healthy living, biodiversity and litter projects happening across the school and embedding work into curriculum and everyday school life in a really impactful way. This is really inspiring and clever.

Your Action Planning is great! The actions that you planned out were SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time Bound). This is important as it helps to achieve progress and empower your Eco-Committee. It was also great to see accountability and monitoring and evaluation marked in your Action Plans and that you identify some really creative actions. We love how your punchy Eco-Code has clear ideas and a call for action for all to get behind, and some important ideas to help protect your local environment! Your curriculum links were really clear and creative! For example, we like that you used active learning strategies and used a cross-curricular approach. For example, combining balanced diet information delivered in science lessons, with a pop up restaurant design project taught in ATL lessons. The project required them to brainstorm all aspects of a pop up restaurant from logo to menu. The science content of a balanced diet was delivered with a very clear link to UN sustainability goals and the importance of reducing meat in the food chain due to its environmental impact. This kind of creative and practical pedagogical work hopefully helps the children to create lovely memories and approach these important topics in fresh and relevant ways, and is a great way to encourage them to take pride and ownership of their local environment.

You've also clearly looked both internally and externally and engaged with a range of different stakeholders, including your work with the RSPB, Warwickshire Wildlife, the Woodland trust, the Big Battery Hunt, Kew gardens, RHS school gardening , Morrisons, Warburtons, FIT insect observation and the Big Butterfly hunt. We love your link to Banbury Trees to organise raising saplings and community planting of trees. This kind of outreach work is a good example of the collaborative approach we will all need to adopt to help protect and improve our environment - your application made us feel really positive for the future! Your achievements this year have been lovely to hear about. It is wonderful to see that your children are keen to protect the environment, and this is in large part due to the actions and attitudes of your staff in regards to setting an example in raising the importance of taking care of our planet. It is inspiring to hear that your greatest success was the incorporation of UN sustainability goals into your year 9 curriculum and the rewilding of an area of your school. We like that your students have made a big effort towards growing food and wildflowers

in school. It is wonderful to hear that you all enjoy using the outdoor space knowing that you have contributed to its improvement. All of these efforts show how embedded the values of the Eco-Schools initiative are within your school, well done everyone!

Congratulations to everyone for the great work you have managed to do. You should all be very proud of your amazing work and the great application you have submitted. You've really earned your Green Flag Award!