



Sheila Baillie
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Dear Sheila Baillie and Mandy Whorlow,

Eco-Schools Scotland Green Flag Award Assessment Feedback

Congratulations to everyone at Kirkcolm Primary School for achieving an amazing 3rd Eco-Schools Scotland Green Flag Award!

I have very much enjoyed reading through your journey. You have worked really hard on your wide-ranging actions to make your school a more environmentally friendly place to be. Well done!

You evidently have a very strong sustainability ethos within your school, with everyone in your school community involved. It is fantastic to see that you keep this ethos going no matter what you are doing. I really like your Eco Mascot. Well done to James for designing it.

You clearly understand the value of monitoring to inform your actions. I particularly liked that you used your litter and snack surveys to identify that many pupils were bringing in less healthy snacks in plastic packaging. This allowed you to take action with your choc free Tuesdays and fruity Fridays to reduce litter and promote healthy eating, with excellent results.

Congratulations on all the amazing awards you have achieved during this Green Flag journey, including your gold RSPB award, silver Rights Respecting Schools award, Respect Badge and 3rd place for Scotland South in our Spring Clean.

You have worked really hard on this journey to create lots of fantastic habitats for wildlife and support biodiversity in your school grounds. It is great to see that you are using surveys to monitor populations of birds and bugs. Keep repeating these to see how populations improve over time, and don't forget to make a plan for how you will maintain all the amazing planting and

wildlife homes you have created.

I loved the look of all the tasty food you made for events throughout the school year, including your One Planet Picnic. My favourite was your tattie scones made from your Dandelion home-grown potatoes. These are one of my favourite foods.

You have completed some fantastic actions to help your physical and mental wellbeing in this award. I am very impressed with your anti-bullying actions and engagement with children's mental health week and safer internet day. Your mindfulness sessions sound like a lovely way to look after your mental health. Your mental health will also have been supported by all the fantastic outdoor and nature connection activities you have completed on this journey.

It is wonderful to see how much you have worked to improve the sustainability of your local community as well as your school grounds. Well done on collecting so much litter during your litter picks. It is lovely to see all the work you do with your local community groups and experts. You have learned so much from them in this journey that you have been able to put into practice through your actions. It is wonderful you have given back to the community as well through your reverse advent calendar and winter clothing sharing. You have done a great job of sharing all your fantastic achievements via blogs, social media and local newspapers. It is no wonder that local councillors are promoting you as models of good practice.

You have done fantastic work on this journey to recycle lots of different materials and reuse items with your swap shops and bring and buy sales. Keep up the good work on this. For your next journey, I would challenge you to go even further with the 5Rs of waste management (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle). Think about what items you could refuse and reduce. For example, could you look at reducing food waste or paper use in school? You could also look at sustainable supplies, such as plastic free art materials or recycled paper. I am sure you will have lots of amazing ideas to add to these ones.

Overall, you have done a fantastic job and are highly deserving of this Green Flag Award. Keep up the good work to love our planet and keep it beautiful.

As you continue your Green Flag renewal journey, remember that you should plan to log on to the application site and start your new journey right away. After you have elected your new Eco-Committee, completed your Environmental Review, chosen three Topics (one of which must be Climate Action) and one UN Sustainable Development Goal, you will then submit your Draft Action Plan for approval before you begin work, ideally within three months of your last award date.

Please make sure that the three Topics you choose cover the same two-year period and that all three Topics are linked to your chosen UN Sustainable Development Goal. Do not forget to include all activities and ideas you have in your Action Plan to make sure they are all captured. With the online system we encourage you to upload as you go, in real time.

Congratulations once again and we wish you every success as you move on to your next application.

The Education and Learning Team
Keep Scotland Beautiful

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