

EAC Clean Green Education Award 2024/2025

Aim

To support all establishments in actively engaging in the Climate Change Agenda and our commitment to NetZero

To support the implementation of Climate Action Plans in each establishment

Complete an [Environmental Review](#) with your young people and use these findings along with the consideration points for each theme below, to support your journey to NetZero.

Areas of specific focus for 24/25 should include: [Climate Action](#), **Be energy aware and demonstrate behavioural change around energy consumption**, **Promotion of active travel**, **Review and reduce residual waste**, **Increase biodiversity in school grounds/community garden**.

Action Plans should be submitted by **10th Oct 2024** and evidence and award applications by **29th May 2025**. Please email to : eaCleanGreenAward@eastayrshire.org.uk

Theme 1: Energy

EAC Aim: Reduce the consumption of energy, promote energy efficiency and increase the proportion of power and heat from low and zero carbon technologies

Some initial questions to help develop establishment action plans and award submissions:

- How are you ensuring lights are only on when necessary?
- How do you ensure windows/doors are not letting heat escape?
- How are you ensuring you save water?
- How are electronic devices managed so everyone takes responsibility to save energy?
- How is the curriculum supporting the education around the theme of sustainable energy?
- Are you an EAC Carbon Counting school? What actions/impact has this had?
- What have you done to raise awareness of key issues at home and in local community?

Are you involved in
Power Down or
Power Down Too?

Theme 2: Transport

EAC Aim: To decarbonise the Council's fleet and minimise grey fleet mileage, whilst encouraging active travel through walking, cycling and public transport.

Some initial questions to help develop establishment action plans and award submissions:

- How do you encourage active travel to school?
- How do you support drop off zones/ no car days etc?
- How are you actively reducing the number of vehicles around the school grounds?
- How is the curriculum supporting education on the theme of active travel, air pollution and sustainable travel options?
- What have you done to raise awareness of key issues at home and in local community?

Are your
JRSOs/Clean Green
team leading Shoot
to Saturn?



Theme 3: Waste

EAC Aim: Manage waste sustainability by reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering waste to improve resource efficiency whilst working towards a circular economy.

Some initial questions to help develop establishment action plans and award submissions:

- How are you reducing food waste in the school building?
- How are you supporting the reduction of single use plastic?
- How is waste reduction and recycling tackled directly? (Do you have monitors? are recycling trolleys out and used?)
- What systems have you put to support a circular economy? (e.g. uniform swap etc)
- How is the curriculum supporting education on a circular economy, reducing waste, recycling etc?
- What have you done to raise awareness of key issues at home and in local community?
- What happens to our waste once it leaves our school/home?

Are you
participating in
Dinnae forget your
Caddy?

Theme 4: Natural Environment

EAC Aim: Ensure our communities, green networks and infrastructure are adaptable to a changing climate and reduce the risks and vulnerability to unavoidable impacts.


Some initial questions to help develop establishment action plans and award submissions:

- How are you protecting and promoting green spaces within the school grounds?
- How is litter managed within the school grounds?
- How does your school promote and support local produce?
- How are you supporting the natural environment from a local and global aspect?
- How is the curriculum supporting and educating young people on supporting their Natural Environment?
- What have you done to raise awareness of key issues at home and in local community?


Are you linking with
RAISE officers,
Dumfries House or
EA Leisure?




EAC CLEAN GREEN EDUCATION AWARD: ACTION PLAN 2024/25

Establishment:	Galston Early Childhood Centre			
Lead Young People	Darcie Smith, Max Cliff, Calvin Forrest, Cora Gemmell, Ariella Rankin			
Supporting Staff	Hazel Kerr, June Nisbet, Elaine Bowden			
EAC Themes	Energy	Transport	Waste	Natural Environment
School action points				
Theme	Planned actions/ideas	Who is involved	Timescale	Review/Update
Energy 	1. Set up eco-group (parents/children) and hold first meeting.	Staff / children/parents	September 24	Eco-group achieved with core staff and small group of children/parents in a focus group. Year 2, we would hope to extend the ethos and values of the group to the majority of children in the centre and reach out to share with families through a monthly Eco-Blog. Power down day successful in highlighting to children the amount of energy we use within the Centre daily. Would look to continue with power down and outdoor days. Mr. Windy trophy has been useful in providing focused experiences, however would seek to provide more children engagement of the challenges each month. Feedback from parents positive regarding energy saving tips at Halloween and Christmas Returning after Easter break – reduced service due to staffing. This is something we will introduce in year 2
	2. Agree Logo, set up Eco-group board	Staff/children /parents	October 24	
	3. Reduce energy consumption by encouraging all lights to be turned off. Develop signage and monitors.	Children / staff	October 24	
	4. Work towards completing "Windy Trophy" by completing 8 identified tasks monthly. See Monthly Plan	Staff & Eco committee	Monthly complete by May 25	
	5. Visit to White lee Windfarm to support understanding of renewable energy	Eco Committee	Nov / Dec 2	
	6. Zero energy Day: Outdoor Day	All staff/children	Nov 24	
	7. Establish home links for families to try to have a zero energy day / power down tips for Halloween /Christmas	Community / Home link Staff/Children/community	March 25	
	8. Intergenerational links – power down champions to link with residents home			
	9. Earth Day – wear something green to raise awareness	Staff/Children/home-link	April 25	



Waste 	1. Establish recycling bins within playrooms – food / plastic / paper.	Staff in Eco committee	September 24	Butterfly room / outdoors in place. Smaller tubs needed within the rooms as EAC bulky. Perhaps IKEA stacking tubes better. Trial over the summer 25.
	2. Survey to parents/Carers to understand the amount of single use plastic within the environment	Staff	October 24	
	3. Information sharing – children & parents to encourage to reduce single use plastic – (data gathering via forms)	Home link & Data collection	November 24	Focused more on reduction of food waste through supporting the “Dinnae forget your caddy” scheme. However, families supported bringing in plastic bottles to recycle in our community eco-greenhouse project (see below)
	4. Learning experience sustainable change – Reduce single use plastic / impact of plastic in environment. How can we use less – family learning event	Staff /children/home-link	January 25	Year2: focus on reducing single use plastics.
	5. Recycling van visit to work with the children to recycle household waste.	Staff/parents/children	December 24	Children fascinated by the recycling van, asking many questions and even learnt about mini bugs eating (digesting) our waste food. Brilliant to think this is anaerobic digestion introduction at the ages of 3-5! Termly litter pick achieved within Centre – extend into local community for year 2.
	6. Recycling – Easter Eco Bonnet parade (Home link to use recycled materials to develop an eco-bonnet)	Staff / parents/children		
	7. Litter pick – within Centre & community (Autumn, Spring & Summer) – signs to put rubbish in bins	Parents/Children	Spring 25	
	8. Recycling of clothing – Termly RAG Bag	Home-link / children	Dec 24 / March 25 / May 25	
	9. Recycling Pre-Loved clothing stand in cloakroom for uniform, Halloween costumes and Christmas jumpers.	Children / home-link	Autumn/spring/summer	Termly RAG bag achieved however raised little money from this for the Centre. Considering whether a Centre based “Vinted” type of model could be set up / used in year 2. or jumble sale
	10. Uniform recycling Rail	Home link	Halloween/Christmas/Summer	Eco-wardrobe accessed well by families. Plan to add additional signage and advertising for year 2.
	11. Reduction of Food Waste - Join EAC food caddy scheme to increase this uptake and reduce food waste within the community. Establish data of number of families using the caddy before and after food caddy scheme. How many families have food caddies and recycle. How can we share joint learning experiences.	All year access	Throughout the year 24/25	Some interest shown in “dinnae forget your caddy scheme” with a small number of families requesting a kerbside caddy.
	12. Support dignified foods to share left over food with vulnerable families within the Centre.	Throughout the year	October 24 (survey & set up)	Dignified foods difficult to sustain, with increased cuts and reduction to food within ECC. Year 2 liaison with Ayrshire food hub and community larder to support accessibility for families within the Centre and support children's learning
	13. Link with Ayrshire food hub / Community larder in Galston	Community	December 25	



<p>Natural Environment</p> 	1. Establish managed wild areas within the Centre's garden.	Staff/children	Autumn 24	<p>Started April 25:</p> <p>Introduced May 25 – following the interests of the children establishing bug hotels in garden area. Buddleia – within garden space to encourage butterflies.</p> <p>No Mow May – shared with parents and carers on the newsletter and learning journals</p> <p>Information shared on the newsletter. Wild seed bombs made within the Centre</p> <p>Members of staff /eco team involved in sowing seeds and planting to support children's understanding of where food comes from.</p> <p>Successful project collaborating with the community Dome project in Galston to set up a Eco Green house using some disused plastic bottles and repurposed plastic sheeting. Children visited the project within the community and staff liaised with the group to form a positive a sustainable link with the group</p>
	2. Development of Bug hotels within the Centre's garden to support diversity of insects within the area.	Staff/Children	January 25	
	3. Within wild areas of the garden children increase diversity of flora by using seed bombs to support increased diversity of plant species.	Families/children	Feb/March 25	
	4. Family Learning – Children within the centre make seed bombs to take home to extend the project into the local community.	Staff / children/community	Feb/March 25	
	5. Children involved in planting seeds to produce food within the garden.	Children /Outdoor staff	Feb/March – harvest Sept 25	
	6. Link with the Dome project within Galston Community to support understanding of food growth from ground to fork.	Community /children/staff/parents	Feb 25	

