



# Eco Schools Application Action Plan



Created and Submitted April 2023 by  
Miss Catherine Paterson - Aim to achieve the 10<sup>th</sup> Green Flag by  
**11/11/2024-** Extended 2025



Actions How are we going to achieve our aims? What actions will we do? Minimum 3 actions per topic.	Who? / When? Who is responsible for the action? Who else will help? / When will it happen?	Measuring: What, how and when will we measure to monitor any changes?	Evaluation/Development: What did we learn from our monitoring? How far did our actions go towards achieving our aims? Could we have done anything differently?
<b><u>Staff CPD and Development:</u></b> To develop staff awareness, knowledge and understanding of the importance of educating about the issues surrounding the climate crisis. Train staff to use the online "Climate Action Planner" created by the Transform Our World" community. Planners used for some of our themed weeks such Waste week, Climate action week, switch off fortnight, eco week / earth day.	<b><u>Schools Climate Action Planner - Reduce your school's carbon footprint - YouTube</u></b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lbGrgQRsVo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lbGrgQRsVo</a>  Miss Patterson and Eco committee initially Miss Paterson create planners Use in 2023 and then begin to teach staff how to use the tool in 2024.  Share with Mrs Patrick Nurture teacher for use in her planning with nurture group.	Survey and question staff opinions to see if the planners were useful and helpful giving enough of a clear guide of actions to be taken for the stage they were teaching. Ask for ideas to develop the resource and if it could be adapted in any way.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.
<b><u>Big Green Week:</u></b> <b>Letters to Tomorrow</b> Participate in the Big Green week campaign Letters to Tomorrow to explain hopes for future generations if our leaders step up to protect the environment - and the fears about what life could be like if we don't slow down climate change. (Aim to write our letters to local MPs and leaders to ask them to promote more sustainable community life).	<b><u>Official Big Green Week</u></b> 8-16th June 2025  Eco committee Partnership schools committee Local MP First Minister	Listen to and read letters written from pupils  Record some of them and share on social media - track the feedback from families, community and MPs receiving letters.  Read letter replies and accept any politician offers to come and meet for discussions about any environmental work to move forwards.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.
<b><u>Participate in Climate Action Week</u></b> Watch and share the main issues surrounding the climate crisis - use of the "Daily Climate Show" during Pupil Voice school assemblies. Invite Local MP to encourage the wider community to take actions such as; uniform swaps, recycle batteries - linking with local stores in the area.	September 2023 and 2024 Eco Committee Partnership school committee Miss Luxton Local MPs Link with local shops  2025 Take part in Live Lessons for Climate Action week.	Questionnaires and survey to engage in the benefits of uniform swap and the number of people using the recycling advice offered. Arranging collection of goods to be donated (Jacket donation) in term 2. Adopt an in school collection first if need to encourage more families to recycle eg batteries and eco committee can deliver to local stores.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Learners were keen to participate in a Jacket Donation scheme, run in term 2. Next time, it would be beneficial to discuss the donation station during an assembly to make all children aware of the items they may be able to donate and where to take their donations to. Class discussions took place explain and encourage reusing old jackets, which could benefit children in the community who may require the resources more.



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<p><b>Waste Week</b> - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle To pledge an unwanted toy or belonging from home and plan to POP SWAP or DROP in the aim to reduce waste and promote sustainable approaches in the community.</p>	<p>April 2023 / April 2024 Yearly April Waste week Eco committee share planned ideas with whole school Miss Paterson and Mrs McDaid leading planning</p>	<p>Read, listen to and monitor collection number of pledges.</p> <p>Share online and through Teams for encouraging parent involvement where necessary.</p>	<p>Evaluation not available due to long term staff absence.</p>
<p><b>"Let's Go Zero" Campaign</b> Participate in the "Let's Go Zero" national campaign uniting teachers, pupils, parents and their schools as to be zero carbon by 2030. Take part in the STEM linked design projects such as The IKEA X Let's Go Zero competition (- the perfect opportunity to help bring climate action ideas to life at the centre of the school community).</p>	<p>April 2023 November 2024 Participate in the competitions available to work towards the zero carbon 2030 initiative.</p> <p>Eco committee and Miss Paterson to share with whole school - organise resources for all</p> <p>2025 Take part in at least one initiative from Let's Go Zero. Miss Luxton, Miss Finlay and Eco Committee.</p>	<p>Observe planning ideas for STEM design competition entries looking for the sustainability and eco friendly theme coming through strongly. Look for pupils labelling and written / spoken explanation and description for their plans for the areas needing development.</p> <p>2025 Have Action Advisors attend the school to discuss how to make our school more carbon friendly. Adapt and make changes to the building, reflecting the discussions had with action advisors.</p>	<p>Due to long term staff absence, Miss Luxton reregistered school for Lets Go Zero in 2025. (Currently no competitions to participate in 2025). Discussed the current ongoing projects with the Eco Committee and will vote to decide which initiative to take forward in the school. Moving forward, one project per year will be taken forward to allow children to fully engage in the problems at hand.</p>
<p><b>SDG Book Club:</b> All classes participate in reading Environmental and Sustainability themed books and share their reviews and recommendations with partner schools. Link to our School values of Respect and Responsibility and to our Eco Code known as the 5Rs.</p>	<p>Monthly competitions for best book reviews and recommendations entries Eco committee and partnership school committees judge / decide winners.</p> <p>Committees responsible for filming recommendations for sharing online social media. Head teacher allow for these to be shared during assemblies.</p>	<p>Monitor the number of reviews and recommendation entries each month to track the engagement in reading volume across all stages of the school.</p> <p>Provide book lists and links to reading if required to expand variety of reading material. Eco committee member to attend lower stage classes to read book aloud, term 4. Upper stages to read book after lunchtime by class teacher.</p>	<p>Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.</p>

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<b><u>Health Week Cookery Workshops:</u></b> Classes to use polytunnel vegetables, herbs and Local store Fairtrade foods to create dishes to share with families virtually and through family days based around the Fire pit. (Develop fire pit cooking sessions).	Eco committee Class teachers and P1-7 classes Mrs Patrick nurture teacher and Miss Luxton Fairtrade committee.  May 2023 and May 2024	Photographic evidence of planting and tracking of plant growth. Classes to complete plant growth diary.  Survey and questionnaires for parents to observe how they enjoyed the sessions and collect the positives found and also any ideas for improving the workshops.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Children had a better understanding of the life of fruits, how they are grown and the benefits of eating locally sources produce. Utilise the space during the winter months to grow winter fruit and vegetables, instead of only utilising during the warmer months.
<b><u>One Planet Picnic Transition Event:</u></b> Classes will design and create a waste free lunch box and include some Fairtrade goods. Celebrate the best designs through whole school competition. Share design ideas with partner schools overseas.	June 2024 and June 2025 - Transition to new classes for moving on day.  Eco committee and partnership school committees arrange with fairtrade committee. Lead teachers for the above committees. Miss Luxton and Miss Finlay	Observe the designs - looking for the most eco friendly Listen to presentations from pupils looking for a list of goods to be included that involve least amount of packaging and an increase in reusable plastics to reduce waste.  Question partner schools looking for their opinions to the most successful designs for them to use to suit their position at present in their climate action journey.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.
<b><u>Cookery Book of Recipes published:</u></b> Collate sustainable recipes from children and our families to create a Balmalloch PS whole school recipe book, send it to be published. Aim to sell to the local community to encourage eco friendly cookery. (Link to our Scottish Book Trust Silver Reading Schools Award Journey).	May - June 2023- April 2025  Mrs Murphy Miss Paterson Mrs Davidson - Reading Schools Committee  All classes take part	Read and identify recipes which are linked to the criteria of reduced waste and sustainable living - eg using store cupboard ingredients and using leftover goods as well as home grown / seasonal herbs, fruit and vegetables.  Staff collate recipes for sending for publishing.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Moving forward provide classes time to complete these activities, link lesson to Healthy Schools planner during Food and Health months to maximise learning opportunities.



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<p><b><u>Take part in Fairtrade Fortnight:</u></b> Plan and carry out a Fairtrade design competition in cooperation with local Co-Op store - to design Fairtrade Easter egg.</p>	<p>March 2024- March 2025 - Fairtrade Fortnight</p> <p>Fairtrade Committee Eco committee Miss Paterson Co-Op Store Lidl Store</p>	<p>Observe the entries looking for the inclusion of Fairtrade products and ingredients. Question store staff on engagement of pupils, and interest of the community in the idea of fairtrade fortnight when the display of pupil design are on view to all. Develop social media links with the Co-Op and monitor community comments aiming to encourage purchase of fairtrade items. (Pupils could encourage further through short video clips of their designs highlighting the fairtrade item included in their ingredients).</p>	<p>Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.</p>
<p><b><u>Develop relationship with Lush Store:</u></b> Invite Lush store employees to give a climate action talk to pupils and for a soap making workshop using all environmentally friendly products and sell these at Christmas fayre - this should aim to encourage the community to purchase Eco friendly gifts in the future.</p>	<p>March 2024 Fairtrade Fortnight, December 2024 and Christmas Fayre.</p> <p>Lush Stores Fort Glasgow Fairtrade Committee Eco committee Miss Luxton and Miss Finlay.</p>	<p>Questionnaires for parents on how they enjoyed events and whether they would use the store ideas for moving towards eco-friendly Christmas shopping approaches.</p> <p>Discuss with staff and pupils as to how we can develop relationship further during staff meeting and pupil assemblies.</p> <p>2025 Have Lush representatives come in and discuss fairtrade products, ethos of the company and how children can make better choices for the environment.</p>	<p>Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.</p>





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<b><u>Planting and Growing:</u></b> To plant fruit and vegetables through the seasons (seasonal produce) inside our polytunnel. Teach pupils to maintain soil and health of plants - watering regularly.	All year round - Beginning of each season  Eco committee Gardening club Miss Paterson Mrs Patrick Rotary club Classes P1-7	Observe plant and growth diaries to monitor the development of the polytunnel. Monitor any plants which have grown successfully in the area and climate and others which may require different growing environment.  Track the use of the fruit/vegetables/herbs used for cookery and identify any others from surveying pupils, teachers and families which could be added to the garden to be of use.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Have a designated timetable for use of the polytunnel, allowing for each class to have a slot for outdoor learning. Utilising the polytunnel more during the winter months to grow a range of different fruit and vegetables.
<b><u>Woodland Trust Application:</u></b> To complete the Fruit trees Woodland Trust Application. Use the hedges and trees to develop the area of the playground to attract wildlife creating habitats and to keep soil healthy and provide good drainage. Hedge to create an additional barrier to keep away litter from fences.	May - June 2023  Eco committee Gardening club Nurture Group Miss Paterson Mrs Patrick Rotary club	Observe and survey monthly tracking litter - assess if the hedges are reducing the number of waste in the school grounds.  Observe, photograph evidence and survey wildlife found in the new habitats. Analyse and record soil moisture - roots of hedges / trees planted acting as drainage? Keep evidence over each month.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Trees were planted in 2023-2024 academic year in the senior and junior playgrounds, these are still continuously monitored to ensure they are growing healthily. After researching to plant additional trees this term, it has been advised to allow the current trees to grow more before replanting. This is to avoid plating trees too close together, encouraging healthy tree growth.
<b><u>Outdoor Classroom Workshops:</u></b> Invite parents, families, local businesses and Partners (Rotary Club) to participate in workshops to learn about and to implement the use of the new composter machinery, water butt and fire pit to cook and encourage using less energy.	June, August, September 2023  Eco committee Gardening club Nurture Group Miss Paterson Mrs McDaid Mrs Patrick Rotary club	Parent, families, wider community Questionnaires - Microsoft Forms to assess success of events and identify new skills learned as a result. identify skills learned and also those needing further work and education to build further confidence.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.



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<b><u>Complete the John Muir Award with Nurture Group and Eco Committee:</u></b> Pupils to adopt an area of our school grounds to develop to support emotional wellbeing of the children in our school. Sensory Areas Sand Pit Storytelling / writing areas	May 2023 - December 2023  Eco committee Gardening club Nurture Group Miss Paterson Mrs McDaid Mrs Patrick Rotary club  All classes can be involved during themed weeks - eco and spring clean week	Drawing and photographs taken through the process. Monitor the changes and dates when achieved.  Survey pupil opinions on the use of each area and the enjoyment / learning achieved from the experience of each area.  Discuss with teachers on any ideas for developing areas. Collate ideas through all classes being involved - create drawings and give a clear description of their design. Present at assemblies and vote on most successful and realistic design for developing school grounds further.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence.
<b><u>Outdoor Classroom Design Community Project:</u></b> To paint and decorate the outdoor classroom woodwork. Pupils to participate in an art and design project with the local Art Workshop Business known as the Port Gallery. To design in accordance to the school values.	June 2023 - November 2023  Port Gallery Kilsyth P7 Community Group Art specialist Head Teacher	Drawing and photographs taken through the process. Monitor the changes and dates when achieved.  Questionnaire for those involved in the process. Identify how the experience made the pupils feel and assess a growth in personal skills.  To develop the relationship with the Port Gallery business identify next steps or projects of interest - such as P7 end of year art sessions.	Evaluation from 2023-2024 unavailable due to long term staff absence. Further communicate with the Port Gallery to arrange art workshops for a range of ages and stages. Potentially could use recyclable materials.

# LINKS TO TWITTER AND SCHOOL WEBSITE EVIDENCE