

Hillhead Primary School

2013/14 Eco Schools Environmental Review

Date of review – 25/9/13

Review carried out by: Miss Lurinsky, Miss Aitken and pupil members of the 2013/14 Eco Committee.

Transport

The School has a safe travel plan which is shared with parents and pupils. Bike stands are available to encourage pupils/staff to cycle to school. The bike stands are in a dry and secure place. The majority of pupils in the school walk to school. The school has a bicycle safety club which offers both on road and off road training. The school is situated next to Kelvingrove Park which many families use a safe thoroughfare to school. The school has trained Junior Road Safety Officers (Primary 6) who develop the safe routes to school plan and promote road safety within the school. The school does not currently hold regular walking and cycling events.

Areas of strength

- Number of pupils walking to school
- Junior Road Safety Officers
- Cycle training and storage facilities
- Safe routes to school plan

Areas for Development

- Plan for more whole school walking and cycling events

Energy

Our school does not currently use any sources of renewable energy. Hot water supply is adequately managed and windows and doors are properly insulated. Most blinds and curtains are closed overnight. Outside doors close automatically. All classrooms are carpeted which also insulates indoor space. All electrical equipment is switched off when not in use. The school is working closely with Iain Baird to become more energy efficient. We are planning to install smart meters in the playground for gas.

Areas of strength

- Lighting switches off if no one is in the room.
- Doors close automatically.
- Carpets are in all classrooms improving insulation.

Areas for Development

- Develop renewable energy sources within the school
- Find out our Energy Performance Rating

Water

The council regularly checks the water purity of the schools. We have eco system toilets and taps in the bathrooms turn off automatically. Dripping taps are fixed quickly. Automatic flush controls are fitted in school urinals. All pupils are not currently aware of the process of water purification. Pupils are aware of the water cycle as this is taught through curricular work across stages. Plants and the grass roof are watered with rainwater.

Areas of strength

- Eco system toilets and taps
- Drips well maintained

Areas for Development

- Water purification assembly
- Water cycle lesson
- Collect rain water for plants
- Water pollution lessons

Litter

The school has a clear litter policy which is reiterated regularly at assembly. There are plenty of bins in the school playground. All classes have a waste bin and two recycling receptacles for paper/card and plastic. Open areas could benefit from more recycling and waste bins. The Eco Committee will carry out a litter audit of the school grounds this session. The Eco Committee plan to organise a litter competition to promote cleaner playgrounds. The Committee also intend to organise a community clean up this year.

Areas of strength

- Inside bins
- Recycling facilities

Areas for development

- Reiterate litter policy to school through assembly
- Carry out litter survey/audit of the school playground
- Organise lunchtime litter pickers rota
- Organise an anti-litter competition
- Plan for Community clean up
- **Waste Minimisation**

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- All scrap paper is reused if one sided by children in class and when both sides are used the paper is recycled. Envelopes are also recycled in the school office. Currently all photocopying is not double-sided. The school uses text messaging and emails for contacting parents however high volumes of paper letters are still sent home. Many school documents are stored and shared electronically. Teachers' plans are printed out. Most pupils who bring a packed lunch use Tupperware or a lunch box. The vast majority of staff and pupils in the school have reusable water bottles. The school currently recycle paper, cardboard and plastic bottles through recycling company Reclaim. The school have compost bins that are currently not in use. The school currently orders recycled jotters and paper where possible (school orders must be made from the council procurement list).

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- Areas of strength
- Recycling procedures
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- Areas for development
- Ask teachers to request double sided copying
- Send fewer letters
- Start to collect food waste for composting

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- Sustaining Our World
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- Pupils learn about local and global sustainability issues through both Eco and Fair-trade topics. Climate change is explored through class topic work at various stages within the school. The school has Fair-trade school status. The school hold a Fair-trade fortnight annually to raise awareness among pupils and parents of Fair-trade. The school does not currently explore environmental issues with schools from other countries. The school does not currently support global environmental charities.

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- Areas of strength
- Pupils are very aware of the importance of buying Fair-trade.
- Fair-trade is celebrated annually within the school.
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- Areas for development
- Links could be established to explore global environmental issues with schools in other countries.

- **Health and Wellbeing**

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- The school dining facility offers a range of healthy options for lunch. Vegetarian sources of protein are on offer daily. The needs of children with various dietary requirements are sufficiently met. The school has adequate water cooler facilities. The majority of packed lunches and playtime snacks are healthy. School meals are prepared on site where possible. Pupils are offered two hours of physical education weekly. A range of sport and extra curricular clubs are offered throughout the year by the school. The school has a Primary 7 buddy system for younger pupils.

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- Areas of strength
- Lots of drinking water facilities
- Most children in the school have a healthy diet
- Buddy system in place

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- Areas for development
- More space to deliver P.E lessons in the school.

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- **School Grounds**

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- The upper school playground has a climbing wall. Pupils would like more areas for balancing. There are many quiet shaded areas in the playground. The school playground has a variety of surfaces. There is no sensory garden at present but pupils would like to create one. Pupils would like to have more areas for artwork and murals in the playground. The school does not currently have an allotment or garden but a rooftop garden is being planned and developed. Outdoor Education is promoted in the school and is a priority on the School Action Plan. Outdoor clothing has been purchased for classes to use. School grounds are open to the public for special events. On occasion grassy areas of the playground become waterlogged and cannot be used by the children.

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- Areas of strength
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- Children enjoy using the climbing frame, sandpit and pirate ship
- Some lessons take place in the outdoor classroom.

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- Areas for development
- Pupils would like to create a sensory garden and have more opportunities for planting.
- Develop areas in the playground for artwork and murals.
- Increase Outdoor Learning opportunities.
- Grow our own vegetables.
- Areas to encourage wildlife.

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- **Biodiversity**