

Environment and Conservation at Almond Hill Junior School 2023-2024



Subject Intent Statement

To encourage members of Almond Hill Junior School and its community to become more environmentally aware by:

- ❖ Increasing knowledge and understanding of our local surroundings and the positive and negative impact we can have on it.
- ❖ Promoting environmentally friendly behaviours that help us to reduce, reuse and recycle, protect and care for the natural spaces around us.
- ❖ Understanding that the small actions we take to look after our immediate environment can have a positive effect locally and globally.

Implementation

Through a pupil-led Environment and Conservation committee (ECO Committee), different elements of the curriculum (PSHCE, Science and Geography) and membership of the ECO Schools network, we use different forms of communication and specific activities to meet Almond Hill's ECO targets.

In 2021 we achieved Bronze Award status through:

- Establishing an ECO Committee.
- Developing and delivering an Action Plan.
- Identifying and focusing on 3 key goals:
 - Reduce litter.
 - Reduce energy use.
 - Increase the nature areas in the school grounds.

In July 2023 we submitted an application for the Green Flag Award.

We also have an allotment and various plant beds around school to provide opportunities for hands on experience with nature. The children help to maintain these spaces through 1:1 or small group activities and a gardening club. They learn how to grow plants from seed, how to nurture them and in some cases harvest them (e.g., potatoes, rhubarb, herbs). This helps the children to better understand where our food comes from but also how the plants we grow nourish other animals and insects and thus, how we can play a role in looking after the nature in our local environment.

Topics/Units Across the Key Stage

Currently consistent across the Year Groups.

| | Autumn | Spring | Summer |
|---|--|--|--|
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruit new Yr3 members to the ECO Committee - Review of Action Plan/activities for the year. - Whole school assembly reminder about ECO Committee and it's initiatives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on using and protecting our nature areas (e.g., Bird watching area, allotments). - Focus on Litter reduction, including UK wide litter picking event. - Promotion of healthy living (e.g., walk to school week). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy reduction campaign. - Ongoing healthy living activities (e.g., clean air day). - Ongoing use and maintenance of our nature areas. |
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| 6 | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular ECO Committee meetings and communications. - Re-use/re-love events (e.g., uniform, books) | | |

Progression of skills

| Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start to develop knowledge and awareness of environmental and conservation topics. - Contribute to the delivery of Almond Hill's ECO Action Plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use knowledge and understanding to generate ideas for creating and achieving ECO goals. - Oversee areas of the ECO Action plan (e.g., Litter Picking). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use research skills (on/offline) to evolve ideas and ways to achieve ECO goals. - Lead different areas of the ECO Action plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draw on cross-curricular learning to enrich and broaden the school's ECO goals. - Champion all areas of the ECO Action plan. - Lead the ECO Committee meetings/admin |