

Initial Steps to Becoming an Eco School

- 1 - Register your school at the Eco Schools Web site
<http://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>

First steps

Once registered there are 3 initial steps for your school to do:

2 - Form an Eco-Schools action team

- Get a date in the diary first. It could be a while until you can get everyone around the table
- Draft in another member of staff. A pair is much stronger. (For best practice you would have a member of the *school management team* in your action team)
- Any interest governors?
- Premises/site manager could supply you with vital info
- Pupils – keen ones – 10-15 from Year's 5&6. Do you have Junior EcoSTARS at the school? (or Student Council could assume the role of action team?)

3 - Conduct an environmental review*

- You need to know where the school is at before you proceed
- Do a review with your core staff team
- Pupils to do one too. They will come up issues and ideas from their perspective that you had not considered.

4 - Develop an action plan*

- Based around what the environmental review told you
- You are likely to have your action plan, but pupils should develop their own one too.

Once the above 4 steps have been completed then your school can begin working towards the Bronze award by focusing on the actions of one of the eco-schools sustainability topics.

Achieving Bronze and Silver

When your school is ready you can apply for the Bronze or Silver Award through the Eco Schools website. Both these awards are self accredited and you can print off the certificate.

Achieving Green Flag Status (the Highest award)

There is a more formal application form and assessment procedure which is conducted by the Eco-Schools team.* -

Note:

A 'template for the environmental review' and action plan can be found in the [Links and resources](#) page on the Eco-Schools website or contact Matt Howell-Hughes at the council.

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