

Environmental Education Policy

Briary Primary School

It is important for the Briary School community to have an awareness and understanding of the effects of their actions upon the environment in which they live, work and relax. In order to do this, we need to take responsibility for our own actions and we need to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live.

The ways in which we will strive towards this goal is to **Reduce** the amount of materials we use and waste we produce, **Re-use** materials wherever possible, **Restore** what is deemed to have been destroyed and **Respect** our neighbours and our environment.

Reduce

Energy

- We will switch off lights when they are not in use.
- We will keep outside doors shut in cold weather.
- We will make sure we turn off taps when they are no longer needed.
- The eco-club will audit the amount of energy used.
- The eco-club will appoint class monitors to ensure these recommendations are carried out.

Paper

We will reduce the amount of paper we use in our classrooms by:-

- Writing and printing on both side of the paper whenever possible.
- The eco-club will make and sell note books made from discarded but useful paper.
- Filing photocopies for use at a later date.
- The eco-club will investigate the possibility of sending information electronically.

In addition, each class will have a waste paper box to enable us to re-cycle our paper.

Transport

- We will continue to promote the walking bus.
- We will continue to take part in the cycling proficiency scheme to encourage safe cycling.
- We will encourage staff to share transport when going on courses etc.

Re-use

Fruit

- The eco-club sell fruit at morning playtime. In addition, many children bring their own fruit. We will endeavour to compost the remains of the fruit.

Gardening

- Gardening waste will be put into the school compost bins.

Donated materials including containers

- Briary school will try to find uses for donated materials. This may be to help with storage or for use in art.
- Where uses cannot be found, we will endeavour to recycle it.

Paper

- Paper will be re-used within the classroom. Each class will have a box of partially used paper that can be used again.
- Display paper will be taken down carefully and re-used wherever possible.
- Paper will be used on both sides wherever possible.

Equipment and Uniform

- Outdated or unwanted equipment will be offered to others who might have a use for it.
- Good condition uniform including football boots and trainers, will be collected washed and sold or given to children.

Recycle

At Briary Primary School, we recycle a range of materials on a regular basis. We have a central collection point situated in the area outside the computer suite.

- Paper is collected in boxes in every class room and office area. This will be collected on a regular basis by monitors and placed in the green paper recycling box on site.
- Aluminium cans and silver foil will be collected in labelled plastic bins.
- Cartridges from computer ink will be collected in a labelled bin.
- Stamps will be collected in the special Guide Dogs for the Blind collection box.
- Mobile phones will be collected in a labelled bin and sent to a factory for reconditioning or recycling.

The eco-club will continue to evaluate our recycling scheme and add to the materials for recycling when necessary.

Restore

- School habitats such as the pond, hedgerows etc are used by the children to study flora and fauna and their habitat. Children will be encouraged to return all living creatures to their original habitat.
- Areas disturbed by sport, by accident, or by malicious damage will if possible be restored to its original condition.
- Children will be encouraged to treat all school equipment with respect. Books and other equipment will be repaired wherever possible.

Respect

- Our first and most important school rule is that we will respect one another. This rule will permeate all we do whether it is discussing global issues, welcoming people of different races, faiths, abilities, or dealing on a daily basis with each other.
- We will extend this respect to the environment and all living creatures.

Assessment

- Our school is hoping to gain an Eco-school award as a result of some of the above ideas.
- Our annual parents' survey will have relevant questions as will the staff and children's survey.
- Observation of particular children and around the school will be a good indication of the success of some of these strategies.
- Events such as assemblies and the children's work will be another way of measuring the effectiveness of this policy.