

# Aberdeenshire Council PB in Schools

We decide...making it happen in Aberdeenshire Schools 2022-2023

## Climate Change and Carbon Reduction



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Leader**

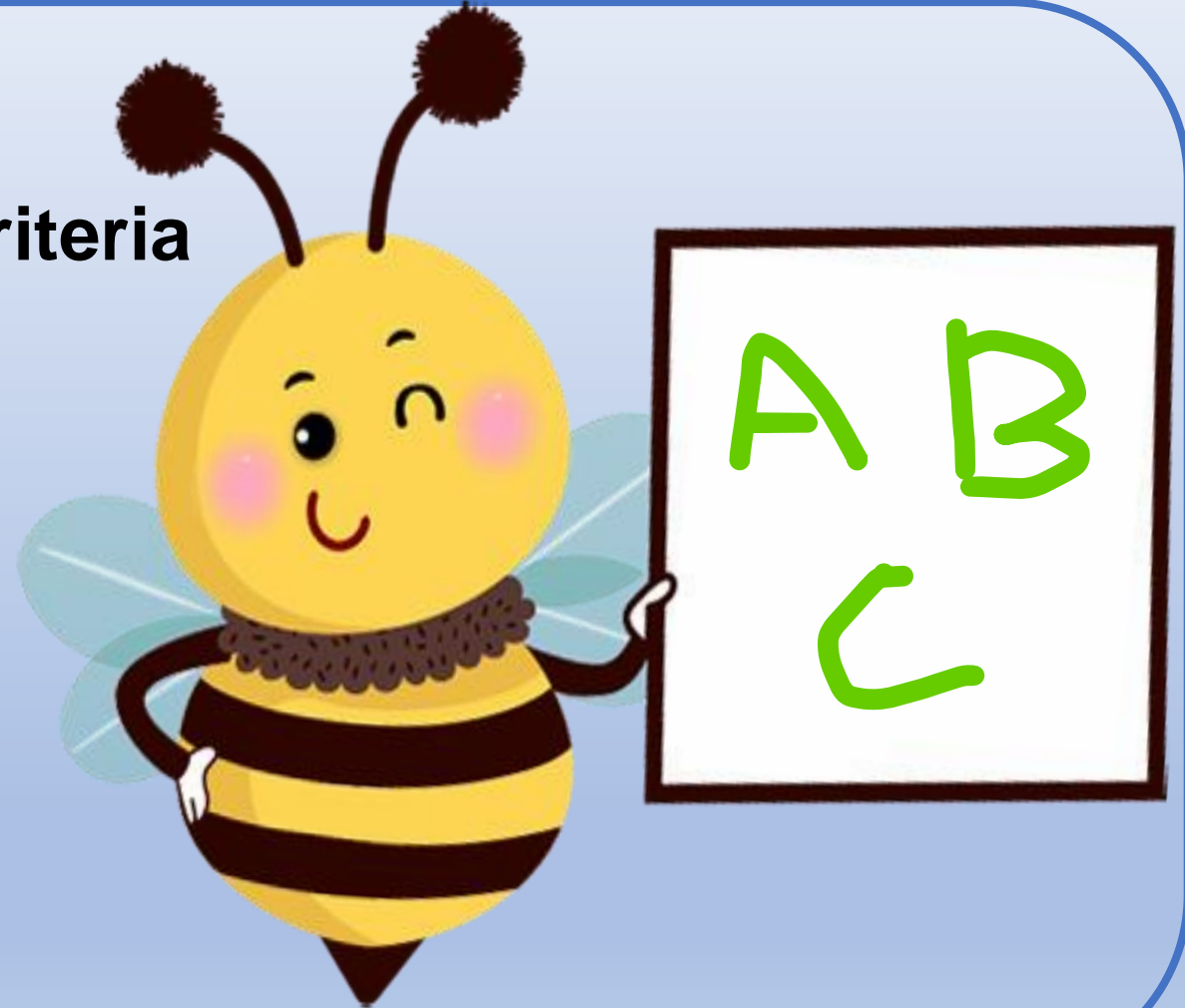
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## Getting Schools Involved!

### Simple Criteria

Theme: Climate Change & Carbon Reduction

- Positive impact on the school community
- Schools could apply for between £500 - £2000
- Whole schools, classes or groups could apply
- Individual schools could submit 1 application



## We decide...making it happen in Aberdeenshire Schools 2022-2023



Children and Young People  
Voting for Change

- 2 Rounds took place in October 2022 & December 2022
- 36 schools submitted projects
- 1,015 young people cast votes in how council money is spent
- 27 projects from across the area were awarded funds
- £41,115 was distributed to climate change and carbon reduction projects
- 9 academy projects were successful
- 18 primary projects were successful
- Success rates representative of ratio of academies to primaries applying
- The process is under review for 2023-24 to ensure even more young people get involved and benefit from successful project

## Expected Impacts - Sustainability

### Overall project:

Young People learn about climate change and carbon reduction in a positive way  
Young people feel empowered and have the resources to take positive action

### Individual projects:

- Improved local biodiversity through planting, conservation and developing habitats
- Carbon capture through planting
- Skills for life for young people - growing and cooking sustainably
- Reduced carbon impact through local food production
- Confidence, skills and enthusiasm around sustainable technologies
- Understanding and reducing impact through sustainable choice
- Mending, reusing, recycling and ethical purchasing
- More young people access, understand, enjoy and respect the outdoor environment

## 14 Wildlife and Biodiversity Projects established

Including:

- 8 Tree planting and learning about carbon capture
  - 1 Including Carbon Capture Green Screen
- 9 Wildflowers to attract pollinators
- 10 Creating & maintaining wildlife habitats
- 1 Companion planting



# 11 Food Growing Projects developed

Including:

- 9 Creating productive school gardens  
- 2 Developing productive school gardens  
- 1 Learning about composting 
- 4 Links to food chain/carbon reduction 
- 6 Growing with the community  
- 4 Cooking and sharing produce with community  
  - 1 Community Cafe



## 4 Learning Resources Projects created

Including:

- Climate and Sustainability

- 3 School Libraries





- 1 Digital Tools and Platforms



## 4 Accessing Environment for Education Projects resourced

Including:

- 1 Clothing and kit to get outdoors
  - Waterproofs and wellies 
- Workshops and site visits on responsible access
  - 1 Leave no trace camping
  - 2 Towards John Muir Awards
  - 2 Towards Junior Foresters Award 
  - 1 Towards RSPBs Wild Challenge Award

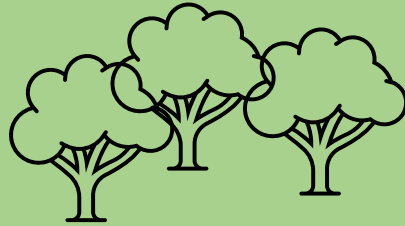




## 9 Improving the School Environment Projects

Including:

- 1 Green Screen to reduce pollution
- 1 Electric Car Points to encourage cleaner travel
- 1 discouraging Seagulls through infrastructure
- Creating Green Spaces for learning & wellbeing



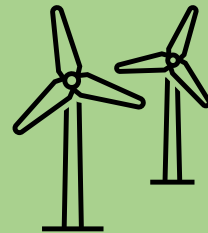
## 2 Technology Focused Projects

Including:

- 1 School Weather Station








- 1 Renewable Energy Build Kits



## 7 Upcycling, Reuse or Recycle Projects

Including:

- 1 Clothes recycling with Textile Fashion Workshops 
- 1 Composting 
- 1 Bike Fixing 
- 6 Creative reuse of materials for building school gardens 
- 1 Sourcing upcycled furniture and resources for improving school environment 



## Early feedback from successful projects

*We now have the gardening tools to start our gardening programme with various learner groups and those that also help out in the local gardens. **The Grow Project, Banff Academy***

*The children are really motivated and are gaining many skills as part of our outdoor learning and are really taking responsibility for the area.*

*We are in the process of planting wildflowers and all of our garden improvements are seeing an increase in our local biodiversity - we were delighted to have a frog visit last week! **Westhill Primary Rainbow Garden***

*Our pupils have undertaken various conservation projects to make a difference in the community. Bird boxes and bug hotels have been built to encourage more wildlife to the areas around the school. Planters have been built and more wild flowers have been planted furthering the biodiversity in the area **John Muir Award Environmental Craft Club Turriff Academy***

*The funding enabled us to purchase a weather station...This weather station is linked to a website... The pupils will continue to use this resource as part of their eco awareness award and continued learning. For now and years to come. **Strathdon School***

## Schools successful in gaining funding this year

**Banchory Academy** - Grow a Rainbow

**Banchory Primary School** - BPS Rewilders

**Chapel of Garioch** - Learning for Sustainability

**Strathburn Primary School** - Eco Sustainability Group

**Aboyne Academy** - Aboyne Academy Leadership Group

**Mearns Academy** - Sewing, Fashion & Textiles Classes

**Kincardine O'Neil Primary School** - Wild Challenge Week

**Lumphanan Primary School** - Super 7's Gardening Project

**Turriff Academy** - John Muir Award/Environmental Craft Club

**Westhill Primary School** - The Rainbow Garden

**Fishermoss Primary School** - Climate Change - Fishermoss Primary School

**Dunnottar Primary School** - Eco Committee

**Drumoak Primary School** - Climate Change Group

**Strathdon Primary School** – Whole School

**Mintlaw Academy** - Go Wild Project

**Banff Academy** - The GROW Project - Our Health and Well-being Space

**Logie Druno** - Climate Action Research

**Banff Primary** - Banff Primary Library Group

**Banff Academy** - The Grow Project

**Hatton on Fintry Primary** - Fintray's Future

**Inverurie Academy** Inverurie Academy Eco Group

**Midmill School** - Midmill School Eco Group

**Clerkhill School – Peterhead** - Clerkhill Conservation Champions

**Portlethen Primary School** - Portlethen Primary Eco Group

**Hill of Banchory** - Hill of Banchory Eco Group

**Portlethen Academy** - Promote electric/hybrid cars reducing carbon emissions.

## What Next: Growing Involvement Shared Learning and Improving Process, Improving Access

The Youth & Community Team Outcomes are around Youth Voice:

- Introducing young people to PB and giving them the opportunity to be involved in PB decision making processes

We are reviewing process and based on school feedback and the monitoring of our outcomes. We propose to:

- Clarify and announce the funds available and theme for 2023-2024
  - Proposed theme: Cost of Living
- Inform Schools of 2023 - 2024 process and timeline by the end of May 2023.
- Hold 2 Rounds of Participatory Budgeting in Schools September/October & December/January
- Each School can opt in advance to be involved in 1 of those rounds only

We are proposing to make the process more equitable and improving our outcomes by:

- Improving how funding is shared across all schools
- Introducing different types of participatory decision making:  
Big Vote, Panel Decisions, Collaborative Budgeting
- Enabling different processes to suit different schools