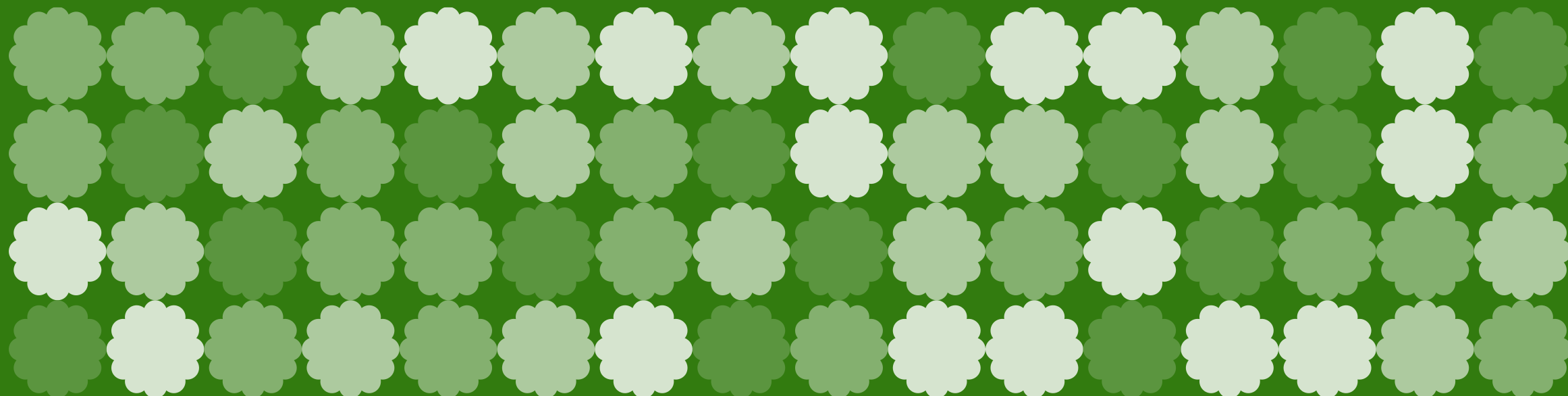


School Eco Grants

Supporting Sustainable Projects in
Greater Manchester Schools



Jurassic Plastic - Making Plastic Waste History

Divine Mercey Primary School

Category: Waste reduction and circular economy

Aim & Activities: To close the loop on plastic waste by treating it as a valuable resource. Pupils will use small-scale recycling machines to transform plastic collected through litter picking into useful products. The initiative will also involve community outreach and will strengthen links with the local science park and businesses like PrintCity to support learning and innovation.

Environmental Benefits: Reduces plastic waste and promotes circular economy thinking. Builds awareness of global waste issues and plastic pollution. Enhances pupils' understanding of the environmental impact of plastic use and disposal, while developing green skills relevant to the growing sustainability sector.

Wider Social Benefits: Inspires children to think creatively and sustainably. Builds confidence in STEM, (science, technology, engineering, maths) subjects. Strengthens community engagement through local partnerships and shared environmental responsibility.



Green Learning Hub and Outdoor Classroom



St Michael's Primary

Category: Climate education focused on sustainable lifestyles

Aim & Activities: Engages pupils in hands-on climate education by creating an outdoor learning hub that includes composting, recycling, upcycled seating, pollinator and edible gardens. The space will support interactive student activities and family gardening days, teaching about the circular economy, waste reduction, renewable energy, sustainable food, and biodiversity.

Environmental Benefits: Promotes hands-on climate education, teaching students to compost, recycle, grow food, and care for native plants, while learning about renewable energy and the effects of pollution. Provides a long-term resource for learning about sustainability and environmental factors that benefit their school, community, and the environment.

Wider Social Benefits: Enhances student wellbeing, builds confidence and skills, and fosters collaboration through family and community involvement. Strengthens school-community relationships by bringing people together around shared environmental goals.

Project chickens!

Parochial Primary School

Category: Sustainable food and tackling food waste

Aim & Activities: The school will rehome ex-battery hens to help pupils understand where food comes from and the responsibility of animal care. The eggs produced will stock the school's foodbank, the 'Parochial Pantry', supporting families in need. The project also aims to reduce waste from their school kitchen and incorporates learning about food waste and sustainability, aligning with the school's mission of 'preparing children for the future'.

Environmental Benefits: Supports pupil learning on sustainable food systems and the environmental impact of food waste. Reduces food waste generated by the school kitchen and promotes sustainable food sourcing.

Wider Social Benefits: Supports food security for families, teaches empathy and responsibility to pupils, and provides a meaningful, real-world context to support the school's mission of 'preparing children for the future'.



What our schools say

“The grant money from GMCA has allowed our children to become involved in a 'real life' project. They are watching their ideas and plans come to fruition with the building of our large chicken coop and run and are busy learning what we need to provide for the ex-battery hens to settle well into their new surroundings.

The grant has allowed the children to see the amount of thought and planning that goes into animal care and the learning that will take place regarding food production is just beginning. The grant has opened up an opportunity for our children to learn beyond the curriculum.”

Louise Thompson

Head teacher

Parochial CE Primary School

Don't throw away - recycle for another day!

Egerton High School

Category: Waste reduction and circular economy

Aim & Activities: Empower students to lead a school-wide waste audit and enhance recycling. The project includes installing improved recycling stations, reducing single-use plastics through the distribution of refillable containers. Includes practical learning and engagement with Eco Schools and Recycle for Greater Manchester and will encourage wider learning to be taken into homes and care placements.

Environmental Benefits: Helps students and the wider school community understand effective waste management and its environmental impact. Supports waste minimisation and reduction of single-use plastics, while encouraging responsible consumption and long-term behaviour change through practical, data-driven recycling initiatives.

Wider Social Benefits: Builds student leadership, self-confidence, resilience, numeracy and literacy skills. Extends environmental learning beyond the classroom into homes, care placements, and the wider neighbourhood.



Veg 'IN' - Our aim is to get more 'Veg IN' to students.



Wright Robinson Secondary School

Category: Sustainable food and tackling food waste

Aim & Activities: To promote healthy, sustainable eating habits through engaging students with fresh produce. Raising awareness through themed events: Veg roadshow, cooking shows, recipe book, competitions, and a “50 plants in a week” challenge. Engages on site catering to offer more choice and availability of plant-based meals.

Environmental Benefits: Supports learning on the environmental impact of food choices, including carbon emissions, land use, and resource consumption. Encourages healthier and more sustainable diets and reduces food waste.

Wider Social Benefits: Promotes healthy eating, creativity, and whole-school participation in sustainability.
