

Summary of Environmental Review

Energy

Strengths

- Electricity and gas usage is monitored on a weekly basis. Meter readings are taken by caretaker.
- All windows have solar reflecting film.
- All windows and doors are double glazed.
- Each classroom has its own heating thermostat.
- External (outside) doors are self-closing.

Weaknesses

- Not all draught excluding strips around doors work.
- No low-energy light bulbs are used.
- Not all Classroom's turn off lights and other electrical equipment when they are not using them.

Litter

Strengths

- Litter within the school ground is kept to a minim through daily litter picks by Eco – Committee.
- All bins are large enough to cope with the volume of rubbish.
- Bins are emptied daily and are now overflowing.
- Bins are correct design to hold litter without it spilling.

Weaknesses

- Litter is often blown in to the school fields through the open fencing.
- Need to find out if the school has a anti-litter policy.

Waste Minimisation

Strengths

- All fruit peelings are composted or used in the school's wormery.
- Classes use scrap paper and always use both sides to reduce the amount of waste.

Weaknesses

- Currently recycling has stopped due to BCBC no longer offering a free service to schools – this needs urgent action.
- No other recycling schemes are currently carried out.

Water

Strengths

- Water usage is monitored and meter readings taken every week.
- Boys toilets have a flush on demand design to reduce water usage.
- Taps in all children's toilets are self-stopping.
- Dripping taps and leaks are fixed quickly.
- Water is a topic that is taught in Foundation Phase.

Weaknesses

- Sometimes, taps are left running in the Classroom (especially with younger children in the school).
- More water saving campaigns need to be run in the school.

Transport

Strengths

- We are part of the Bike It programme.
- We closely and regularly monitor how children come to school.
- There has been a significant drop in children coming to school in cars and an increase in the number of children who walk, cycle or scooter to school.
- A new purpose built bike shelter has been constructed in the school grounds.
- Cycle routes have been created around the school for children and residents to use.
- We hold regular bike it events and walk to school events.

Weaknesses

- Look into introducing a walking bus / cycle train scheme.

Healthy Living

Strengths

- Children are only allowed fruit during break times.
- New water coolers have been bought and children have access to this throughout the day.
- Healthy Living is taught throughout the school as part of the Curriculum.

Weaknesses

- Packed lunches are a problem. Many unhealthy foods are brought into school.

School Grounds

Strengths

- Many different habitats are been created in the school grounds i.e. a nature garden, allotment, butterfly and bee garden, bug hotel, willow structures.
- Bird boxes, feeders, bath and pond are in grounds.

- School has made links with outside organisations in relation to biodiversity i.e. IBRA, Sustainable Wales, Bryngarw Park.
- Compost bins are used for fruit peelings.
- The outdoor environment is used frequently and consistently as part of the Curriculum learning.

Weaknesses

- A limited number of trees are in the school ground – no wooded area.
- There is a constant battle against weeds in school allotment.

Global Citizenship

Strengths

- School holds a fair trade harvest and fair trade is covered in all classes.
- Throughout the Curriculum, opportunities have been planned for children to find out about other countries in the World and how they compare to ours.

Weaknesses

- Currently there are no links with other schools in different countries.
- No fundraising events are held to raise money.