

HOW GREEN IS YOUR SCHOOL?

The positive contribution schools can make in improving our environment cannot be underestimated.

Whilst schools can, themselves benefit from potential savings and improvements made to the school environment, schools can also be seen to demonstrate their environmental commitment to the wider community. In this way, schools can be a force of inspiration, influence and leadership to their pupils, the wider community as well as other schools.

This department can help you take practical steps to manage your school in a more sustainable way: Practical tips, contacts and information resources are available to help support your school's development and links to a number of awareness raising initiatives.

Education for sustainable development and global citizenship is part of the existing school curriculum and of school life. It is not an additional requirement. Questions are usually asked in relation to standards in sustainable development during inspection time, (see attachment) and it is hoped your school would benefit from the service we provide and positive changes would be made to your school.

What are the environmental issues at your school?

- Energy & Water Management?
- Waste Minimisation?
- Transport?
- Purchasing?
- Building Maintenance?
- School Grounds?
- Healthy Eating?
- Global Issues?

Please contact

The Sustainable Development Unit
Rhondda-Cynon-Taff CBC
Unit G1
Main Avenue
Treforest Industrial Estate
Pontypridd
CF37 5YL

Telephone: 01443 665559/60/62

E-mail:

paul.dukes@rhondda-cynon-taff.gov.uk

gillian.perry@rhondda-cynon-taff.gov.uk

julie.jones@rhondda-cynon-taff.gov.uk

Questions to ask in relation to standards in sustainable development and global citizenship

- **Are the statutory requirements** for sustainable development and a global dimension in geography being met?
- **Does the PSE provision** give enough attention to sustainable development and to global citizenship?
- **Do pupils have enough opportunities** to develop and extend their awareness and understanding of sustainable development and global citizenship in other subjects?
- **Do pupils taking examination courses** have enough opportunities to consider sustainable development issues?
- **Do pupils show an appropriate level of awareness** and understanding of sustainable development and of the knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and values necessary to become a global citizen?
- **Are pupils given the opportunity to develop** their awareness and understanding of sustainable development and global citizenship through extra-curricular work and projects?
- **Does the school have adequate resources** for education for sustainable development and global citizenship?
- **Are the staff sufficiently trained** to teach education for sustainable development and global citizenship?

Questions to ask in relation to the school and sustainable development

- **Does the school have a good understanding** of education for sustainable development?
- **Does the school have a policy** on sustainable development issues?
- **Does the policy** have a beneficial effect on practice?
- **In the course of the inspection**, was the school acting sustainably?
- **Are there effective measures** in the use of energy?
- **Are there procedures** to ensure that waste can be kept to a minimum?
- **Is the school effectively promoting recycling?**
- **Is the school effectively supporting healthy lifestyles?**
- **Is the school engaged in projects** that promote education for sustainable development?
- **Has the school gained any award** for its work in promoting sustainable development?

(Extract from Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship booklet)
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