



# **Whittaker Moss Primary School**

## **Eco Schools Policy**



Updated by Miss Taylor 04.12.17

Whittaker Moss Primary School is committed to the core aims and objectives of the Eco Schools programme. **We achieved the International Eco-Schools Award: Green Flag Status on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017** and we strive to maintain the high standard that comes with this award.

As a school, we encourage pupils and staff to follow the Eco Code as detailed below. The code was created by the staff and pupils in collaboration with the school council. The Eco Code is displayed in every classroom in the school.

**All teaching staff will be encouraged to promote the values of the Eco Schools values in a variety of ways, for example through;**

- Teaching and learning in the curriculum
- Outside speakers
- Competitions and clubs
- Community involvement
- School visits/Trips
- Cultural visits (film/theatre) linked to the environment
- Sourcing of environmentally friendly products
- Technological activity
- Recycling initiatives
- Use of the school grounds for learning

#### Whittaker Moss - Eco Code



#### Our Eco-Code

Eco Schools®

Get up, go, eat healthily



Recycle, reduce, reuse- we can do it easily!!!



Energy can be saved if we turn off all those switches, if



Everyone does their bit we won't have any hitches

Now is the time for action!!!

So let's be seen to be green!



**-We remember to Recycle – don't waste materials, switch off lights when not in use, put litter in the bin, turn off taps- don't waste water, walk to school when possible, eat healthily and take part in energetic play and exercise!**

Pupils, teaching and non-teaching staff alike are aware of and fully support the school's policy on Eco related matters in the school as detailed below:

### **Litter**

At Whittaker Moss pupils learn about the impact of litter in their local environment as well on the wider world, during the course of the curriculum and Eco Projects.

All members of the school community take responsibility for the collection of litter on the school grounds and the Eco Reps lead this. Litter reduction and prevention is a process that involves all members of the school community

Pupils understand that litter clearing is a positive environmental action.

Assemblies and audits should show pupils that litter prevention improves the environmental quality of the school and the neighbourhood.

### **School Grounds**

Our school grounds provide teaching and learning opportunities to enrich the experience of pupils. There are opportunities for gardening, growing and much more. Pupils are able to play, learn, relax and make good connections with the natural environment within the school grounds. Our habitat creation promotes biodiversity within the school grounds. The school grounds are viewed as a part of the local community and pupils and staff are keen to up keep them.

### **Waste Minimisation**

At Whittaker Moss pupils are aware that by minimising their waste they are contributing to the National Waste Strategy.

- We aim to raise the awareness of what schools can do to minimise waste going to landfill
- We aim to reduce, reuse, recycle waste wherever possible
- We appreciate the financial as well as the environmental benefits of waste minimisation and recycling activities

**At Whittaker Moss we aim to work with the local community to reduce waste**

### **Sustainable Development**

Whittaker Moss Primary School aims to carefully control its use of energy.

- We aim to cut down on pollution and waste
- We encourage the recycling of used materials (currently paper, cardboard etc)
- We aim to protect fragile eco-systems

- We aim to share more fairly between different social groups and peoples (**Fair Trade assemblies and Coffee mornings**)
- We aim to share more fairly between present and future generations

Whittaker Moss will support **“Den Day” with the charity save the children.**

### **Health and Well-being**

Whittaker Moss Primary School has a comprehensive programme of physical activity and encourages pupils and staff to participate at all levels.

We encourage healthy eating during school times e.g. fruit options at lunch time, school water bottles and at different school events.

We have an anti-bullying policy and we encourage all members of the community to work as a team, co-operate with others and support each other.

We have a PSHE programme which promotes healthy attitudes and information pertaining to social and emotional development at all stages. See Programme and policy.

We are committed to improving the aesthetic qualities of the grounds to provide a pleasant environment for all to work in.

### **Transport**

- Whittaker Moss aims to encourage and enable children and parents to walk, cycle and use public transport.
- We have implemented an effective road safety awareness programme for pupils and we also take part in ‘Bike-ability’ and Road Safety Week.
- We raise awareness about the impact of transport on the environment and people’s health through an annual audit.
- We provide adequate support and information about travelling to school for pupils and staff who wish to walk, cycle or use public transport.

### **Water**

At Whittaker Moss we aim to reduce unnecessary water usage.

We aim to raise awareness of simple actions which can substantially cut down water use and we educate pupils and the wider community to show how conserving water is vital for the future of our planet.

We also raise awareness of the link between clean water and good health in a global context.

### **Energy**

Whittaker Moss aims to raise awareness of the importance of monitoring energy consumption by regularly tracking the school’s use of gas and Electricity.

We aim to make pupils aware of the link between energy supply, use and the potential for environmental damage.

We aim to make pupils aware of the link between energy use and financial cost and encourage a reduction in energy consumption. Pupils are also aware of alternate sources of energy.

Whittaker Moss will support the annual national campaign **“Switch Off Fortnight”**.

### **Food and the Environment**

Whittaker Moss aims to raise awareness of the value of healthy, stable eco-systems to food production.

- We aim to promote healthy and responsible food choices.
- We aim to help pupils to recognise their own food culture within a diversity of food cultures.
- We aim to support local producers of food and seasonal produce where possible and aims to help pupils to understand the wider environmental implications of our food choices.

### **Biodiversity**

Whittaker Moss aims to raise awareness of the term ‘biodiversity’, and increase pupils’ understanding of it.

- We aim to communicate the benefits and values associated with biodiversity.
- Whittaker Moss is committed to providing a range of local, outdoor experiences involving first-hand contact with nature, and those working to care for it .
- We will encourage choices which improve the biodiversity of our local surroundings, and which use natural resources in more sustainable ways.
- We will seek to make national and international links with other schools to explore the local and global aspects of biodiversity issues.

### **The Environment**

It is important for us to have an awareness and understanding of the effects of our actions upon the environment in which we 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 investigate the possibility of sending information electronically (To parent/carers etc).

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

### **Transport**

- We will continue to promote walking/ cycling to school.
- 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**

• Fruit will always be available at lunch time as a healthy option. Key Stage 1 and Foundation classes enjoy fruit in the afternoons. We also have a healthy salad bar at lunch times. We will continue to put fruit waste onto our compost heaps/bins.

#### **Gardening**

- Gardening waste will be put into the school compost bins.
- Whittaker Moss 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.
- Unwanted/donated good condition uniform including football boots and trainers, will be collected washed and given to other who may need it.

### **Recycle**

At Whittaker Moss Primary School, we recycle paper and ink cartridges on a regular basis. We are hoping to recycle more soon- see our action plan.

### **Restore**

- School habitats are used by the children to study insects in 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**

- One of our most important school rules 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.

### **Community Links**

We visit our local allotments to learn from others and to help in the local area.

### **Gardening Club**

Gardening club meet every week (see the school website for more information) and they feedback to their classes to keep the rest of the school informed.

### **Assessment**

- Our Eco Reps will conduct a parents' survey/questionnaire as well as class survey/questionnaires.

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.

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