

Term 1 Information for NSW Schools



Bronze, Silver and Green Flag Awards

Applications are open all year round, via a simple online form. Successful applicants receive a judge's report, certificate, logo, flag (Green Flag only) and assistance with promotion of their achievements in various media. See eco-schools.org.au/homepage/awards/ for criteria.

International partnerships program

NSW schools can receive assistance to form a working partnership with a 'sister' Eco-School in the UK or Asia. Email info@eco-schools.org.au to express interest in this program.

Grants

Eco-Schools Australia currently has 2 grant funds, providing financial assistance to student-led sustainability projects. Criteria and timeframes are stated below.

To Apply: Please send an email to info@eco-schools.org.au stating school name, contact person, email address and the name of the grant fund you are interested in. You don't need to have a project plan prior to application, since the program ethos is that the student-led eco team decide on the project aims and actions.

1. Litter Legends

Grants of up to \$500 are currently available to assist Australian Eco-School committees to complete a Litter Legends project. This project is funded by the Wrigley Company Foundation and contributes towards the International Litter Less Campaign. All applications will be considered until all grants have been allocated. Funding criteria:

- Projects must be student-led and address the 7 steps of the Eco-Schools framework.
- Projects must set out to prevent litter in school and the wider community, including a community engagement element.
- Participants collaborate with other schools in the international campaign by sharing their progress on Eco-Schools Projects website (instructions provided).
- Recipients must be registered with Eco-Schools and participate in a monitoring, evaluation and reporting exercise (instructions provided).
- Projects must commence in Term 1 and be completed by 18 September 2015.

2. Eco-Schools Australia Seed Funding

Grants of up to \$500 are currently available to assist Australian Eco-School committees to complete one or more of their eco action plan goals. This project is funded by the Australian Packaging Covenant. All applications that meet the criteria below will be considered until all grants have been allocated. Funding criteria includes:

- Projects must be student-led and address the 7 steps of the Eco-Schools framework.
- Projects must commence in Term 1. Recipients must be registered with Eco-Schools and submit an Eco-Schools award application in 2015.
- Projects can be focused on any sustainability theme, but must include a litter prevention element.

Eco-Schools Australia – Overview of the Program



Eco-Schools is an international sustainability education program that started 20 years ago in Europe and now includes 44,000+ schools across 60+ countries.
Contact Email: info@eco-schools.org.au

What do Eco-Schools do?

Eco-Schools tackle one or more of the **themes** below. They use the **7 Steps** as a framework to help projects succeed and so students (and community) can learn about the themes.

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| 1. Eco-Committee | * Litter & Waste: The Cycle of Stuff |
| 2. Environmental Review | * Biodiversity: Habitats & Homes |
| 3. Action plan | * Energy & Climate: Super Smart Power |
| 4. Monitor & Evaluate | * Water: Think, Drink, Save the Sink |
| 5. Curriculum links | * Fair Go: Global Citizens for Social Justice |
| 6. Inform & Involve | * Lifestyles: Healthy and Active |
| 7. Eco-Code | |

Awards

Eco-Schools that adopt the **7 Steps** to complete their action plan can apply for an award:



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| Bronze | 1 Theme |
| Silver | 2 Themes |
| <i>Green Flag</i> | 3+ Themes |

Highlights

- Save **money** and resources – 80% of Eco-Schools reduce energy use and waste.
- Reduce **Carbon Footprint** – on average 30% over 5 years.
- Benefits for students: **problem solving, leadership, democracy, citizenship**
- Curriculum development - '**Education for Sustainability**'
- Fun and engaging – efforts are recognised with international awards.

How to join in

It is \$100 per school, per year to become a registered Eco-School. Registered schools are eligible to apply for Bronze, Silver & Green Flag Awards and Eco-Schools grant funding. Following registration, participants receive a welcome letter, getting started checklist, certificate, and weekly emails containing updates about relevant support, workshops and grants. A nominated main contact is provided a login to the online awards application forms, framework guidelines & resource links.

Register at eco-schools.org.au/register