INTRODUCING SUSTAINABILITY INTO THE CURRICULUM

By taking part in the Green Ambassadors scheme your school is already demonstrating a dedication to sustainability. However, sustainability is a key issue for pupils today and one which can be approached from many different angles. By ensuring the whole school engages with the issues around sustainability you can help to make Green Team’s job easier and ensure that every pupil has a chance to help change the school and environment for the better.

To help your pupils fully grasp sustainability, encourage your teaching colleagues to take an integrated approach, exploring sustainable development throughout teaching in different subjects, Citizenship, Design and Technology, Science and Geography have been identified as areas where there is particular opportunity to engage with sustainability. Sustainability can also provide a compelling context for developing Literacy, Numeracy and Personal Learning and thinking skills

In order to understand the importance of sustainability pupils should be given the opportunity to:

- Explore and help to preserve their own local environment
- Study and debate different viewpoints on the environmental challenges facing society
- Consider alternative future scenarios for the planet and the risk associated with not achieving sustainable development
- Use their own ideas to act and contribute to change within their school
- Use their own ideas to act and contribute to change within the wider community.

Cooperation amongst teachers will be needed in order to successfully integrate sustainability through the curriculum. As a team encourage your teaching colleagues to follow these three steps to focussing on sustainability:
1. Identify your aims: Ascertain what your aims are; what are the characteristics of a learner who understands the importance of sustainable development?

2. Plan how to achieve our aims: How will you introduce engaging learning experiences which deliver a sustainability message; for example consider taking pupils out of the classroom environment, empower pupils by giving them responsibilities.

3. Evaluate: consider how well you are achieving your aims; have your pupils demonstrated more engagement with issues of sustainability? What more could you do to engage pupils further?

By integrating sustainability throughout your school’s curriculum you can help the whole school to develop the same enthusiasm for sustainability which your Green Team will demonstrate.
Why we are here
To stop the degradation of the planet’s natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.
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