

Junior Environment Champions



Make a difference

You may have seen across the media or news the impact that litter and plastics have on our streets, countryside, parks, oceans and local environment.

We can all make a difference by altering our behaviours and understanding the impact they can have on the environment. To tackle some of the challenges, Royal Greenwich is launching the Junior Environment Champions programme that will engage with the borough's primary school children on themes such as reuse, energy, recycling, food waste and litter.

A good example is litter, which is a highly visible issue and one that is easily understood by all ages. By showing children how they can help keep their wider community clean, they can learn the impact their behaviour has on the environment.

With an emphasis on taking pride in their local area and having respect for surroundings they share with others, the programme

will look to empower children by teaching them how they can become a hero and help protect the environment. The children will promote this approach amongst their friends and families, which in turn will have an impact beyond the classroom.

We are offering schools a flexible programme that can be tailored to meet their curricular and extra-curricular objectives when it comes to both the environment and civic responsibility.

The programme can include:

- The loan of clean-up equipment such as hi-vis vests, litter-pickers and bags, if the school agree to carry out regular litter picks or wish to organise a clean-up event.
- We can teach children to conduct litter surveys and spot environmental problems in their neighbourhood.



- Offer Health & Safety advice, provide site risk assessments and arrange for rubbish clearance as part of your clean up event.
- Delivery of assemblies and class-room presentations that address a range of topics relating to the local environment. These topics are featured in our Junior Environment Champion pack.
- Provide information and access to services that promote the 3 Rs – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- Award all participating pupils with a certificate to show they are members of the scheme.
- Assist with publicity material if the school has an event relating to the 3 Rs.
- Keep all the schools updated on news and other developments.

What can the school do?

- Maintain litter-free premises.
- **Pupils' Pledge:** Pupils commit to never dropping litter and always recycle when they can.
- Encourage the reporting of fly-tipping, litter and graffiti encountered on routes to school by staff, pupils and parents.
- Include key messages about reduction, re-use and recycling in lesson plans, in a fun and inclusive way.
- Create your own herb, vegetable patch or compost heap.

Participating schools might also like to:

- Get involved with local environmental projects and initiatives (with our support).
- Organise and participate in clean-up events in problematic areas, with our support.
- Organise activities, competitions and awareness days with the assistance of the Council.
- Invite us to your assemblies and annual events, where we can continue to talk to the community and children about these key messages.



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