

# Eco-Schools Awards 2025 Nominations



Your charity for Scotland's environment

# Eco-Schools at a glance

- 99 countries
- Globally, 20 million students and 1.3 million educators
- Around 900 schools currently taking part in Scotland
- A fantastic framework that allows schools to fulfil the Learning for Sustainability 2030 Action Plan

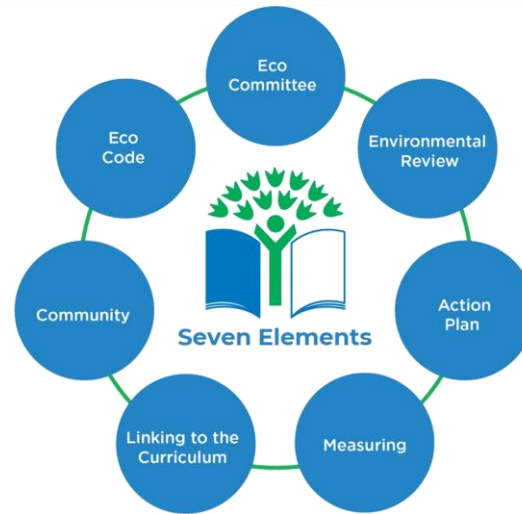


## How does it work?

Establishments in Scotland need to:

- cover the Seven Elements of the Eco-Schools framework
- make sure work is as pupil-led as possible, led by an Eco-Committee that inspires and involves the rest of the school, and by an Eco-Coordinator who supports pupils to fulfil this
- focus their work on at least 3 of the 11 Eco-Schools Scotland Topics
- work on Climate Action as a mandatory topic.

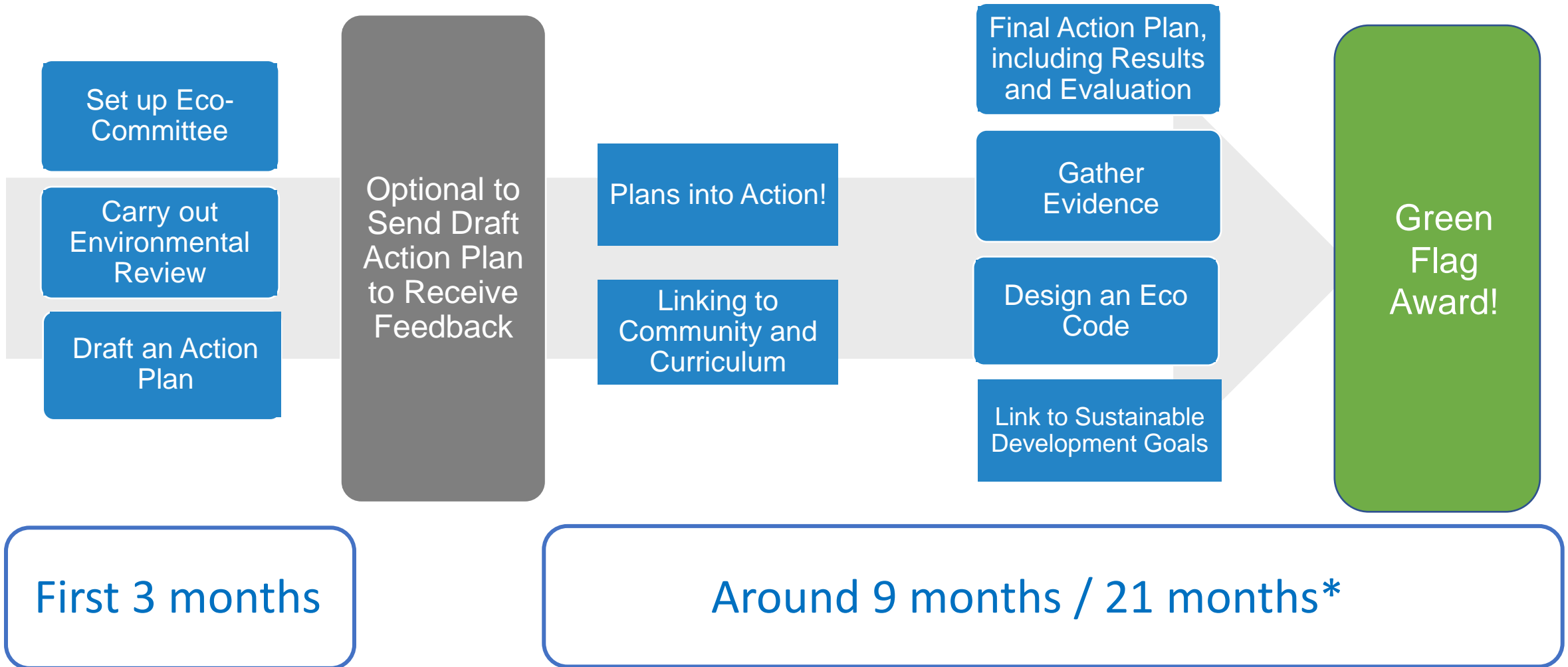
## Seven Elements



## Eleven Topics



# General structure of the Eco-Schools work or *'Green Flag journey'*



\* Currently, schools joining and re-joining the Eco-Schools Scotland programme work for 1 year, and schools renewing their award work for 2 years



# Award category 1: Climate Action Project

We want to empower young people to take action on climate change in school and outside of it.

Therefore, since 2022 Climate Action is our core Topic, meaning it is mandatory for all settings that are working towards a Green Flag Award to work on Climate Action as one of their Topics.

Schools' work on Climate Action can take many shapes. Through our resources and support, schools are reminded that Climate Action can include:

- Understanding and caring about climate change (e.g. learning and raising awareness)
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. actions on reducing transport emissions, reducing energy waste, reducing waste and consumption, improving habitats)
- Protecting against and adapting to the effects climate change will bring (e.g. creating shaded areas, incorporating water conservation infrastructure, creating flood defences)





# Award category 2: Eco-Committee

- Ideally, should represent and/or involve all school stages.
- As pupil-led as possible.
- Takes responsibility for Eco-Schools projects through:
  - Carrying out an Environmental Review
  - Creating and updating an Action Plan
  - Listening to and inspiring the whole school
  - Measuring and monitoring their progress
  - Communicating with their school and community
  - Helping to complete their Green Flag application





# Award category 3: Eco-Coordinator

- Eco-Coordinators are the main staff point of contact between schools and ourselves.
  - Can be any member of staff
  - Can be more than one person
- Their role is to enable and support pupils to:
  - Fulfil their Eco-Committee role
  - Complete the Seven Elements
  - Have a hands-on learning experience
- They are ultimately responsible for the schools' Green Flag application.
- They are the driving force behind schools' work, and the key to a whole-school engagement and approach.



# Judging criteria

Ideally we are looking for a little more than just a list of activities that schools/committees have been undertaking.

For a **project**, has the nomination described a cohesive project? Have they indicated how the young people were involved and what they learned? Please note a project doesn't HAVE to include the whole school, it can be run by a smaller group of pupils. (All projects mentioned here are parts of larger Eco-Schools applications which will have included opportunities for the whole school at other points.)

For a **committee**, are all year groups represented in the committee or does the nomination show that they have kept the rest of the school informed and involved in their activities? Does the nomination show how pupils have led work in the school?

For the **Eco-Coordinator**, how have they inspired and led the children and young people? Is there evidence of their passion and commitment to giving young people opportunities to grow and be involved in the Eco-Committee?



Climate Action  
Project of the Year



**Climate Action  
Project of the Year  
2025**

# Climate Action Project A

The Primary 5 to 7 pupils of Project A took part in an interdisciplinary project between 9-20 of September 2024. This exciting learning opportunity enhanced and built on previous learning. These classes have previously had the opportunity to explore the local rivers with a focus on both physical and man-made features and some of the wildlife found in or around the rivers. We have also discovered how the rivers Clyde and Leven and Dumbarton Castle played strategic roles in history, particularly related to The Vikings and Mary Queen of Scots. As part of our Eco Plan, we were eager to help to improve our local area and to establish more community links. Due to this, we chose to focus on the part of the River Clyde near to the castle as this would help to improve the locality for visitors to this landmark and local people. All of this culminated in us picking challenging questions (How clean is our river? How can we help?) , which enabled us to undertake a relevant, sustained enquiry where learner voice and choices are encouraged, with the children taking it in different directions based on what has been found out and also on individual interests. We established links with The Friends of Dumbarton Foreshore and Zoe Weir from Shore Thing, who shared invaluable knowledge and resources about The River Clyde, wildlife, water quality and pollution. She sent us lots of information and photos. We took water samples, collated information and also undertook a huge litter pick. We want to help to improve the environment for wildlife and people and intend to make this a twice yearly event. We shared our project with the whole school at assembly and it helped us to get our Green Flag. It reinforced our passion to play our part to help our planet.

# Climate Action Project A





# Climate Action Project B

P4/3 have undertaken a Sustainable enterprise project to encourage pupils not to spend lots of money on charity merchandise but to reuse items of clothing they already have. After learning about Fairtrade and sustainable cotton school uniform they studied what fast fashion was and with support from a trained screen printer they designed their own Red Nose Day logos and screen printed them on to clothes that other pupils handed in. They also collected a minimum donation so the charity were still raising money. They also raised £270.



# Climate Action Project C

Project C pupils were very successful in the pocket garden competition last year, and this year focused on the Ocean Friendly School award. They have contributed to a global sea-temperature study! They helped to download data from the 14 sensors placed in the rock at Borge beach to record the temperature as part of a global study led by Portuguese climate scientist Dr Rui Seabra. Rui's pioneering work is making an important contribution to climate science [www.coastalwarming.com/cctbon](http://www.coastalwarming.com/cctbon). -learned about the effects of microfibres on the sea and marine life. One way to reduce microfibres is to reuse and recycle clothes. Thank you to Aodh 'is Ùr (local charity shop) for allowing them to come in to see the amazing range of clothes they have available and allowing the children to take pictures while modelling some of the clothes. The children then used these pictures to create posters persuading people to recycle and reuse clothes and are displayed in the community building. Pupils made an information video about microfibres and their effects and presented this at a community event. Some P4-7 pupils wrote persuasive letters to the Local MP highlighting our concerns about microfibres and advocating for filters to be fitted on all new washing machines. Mr Crichton kindly wrote back to each pupil individually and asked if he could visit the school! The children showed him all the work they have done on SDG 14 Life below water and SDG 12 Sustainable production and consumption. He was so impressed with the letters he has copied them and passed them on to the Environment Minister and others! They also created a Waste Funnel outdoor mural which encourages people to think more sustainably about waste.

# Climate Action Project C





# Climate Action Project D

We have been taking it in turns (P1-P7) to learn outdoors with our outdoor learning teacher. We are either out for 1/4 of the day, half a day or a full day depending on what we are doing. By being outdoors we reduce our carbon footprint as we are not using electricity for lighting, smart boards etc. This year we have learned about climate change, resources that impact upon climate change, habitats that can be improved to reduce climate change. Some examples this year include: the importance of peat bogs in locking carbon, food miles and how growing our own can reduce carbon emissions. We visited a local farm and have planted trees (native and fruit), plus we are growing potatoes, wheat and new hazel and oak trees from the acorns and nuts we collected from our school grounds. We make our own learning resources - so we don't need to purchase them. We made our own flour from wheat and cooked on the fire (bread and other products). We reuse plastic bottles for a range of purposes and have made bioplastics (eco friendly from vinegar & milk). We put on an eco campaign show for the school (reduce our plastic use) and had a walking 'school trip' to our local river, exploring our local community on foot. We aim to instill a love of the outdoors and learning outside in all pupils, turning off lights and computers. The pupils are involved in school ground maintenance and habitat improvement (planting trees to lock carbon). We repurpose and reuse resources where we can (minimise landfill and responsible consumption and production) and grow our own produce to eat in the Polytunnel and new orchard. P3/4's School trip involved no transport we walked. P7 are also considering this for their summer trip. This all links to the sustainable development goals.

# Climate Action Project D



# Climate Action Project E

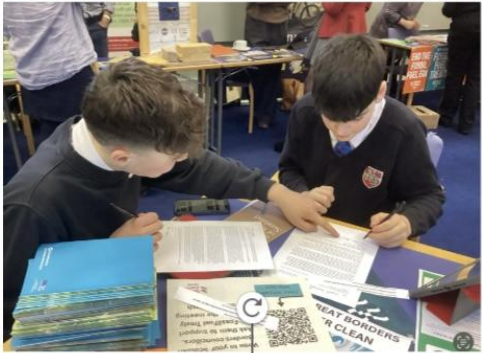
In March 2024, myself and 2 Eco Club members attended the Borders Green Summit organised by Scottish Borders Climate Action Network. We were the only school there and we had a great time interviewing all the exhibitors and reporting back to our Eco Club and the community via our local magazine. The Community Development Lead from SBCAN got in touch after the event, wanting to meet the Eco Club and see how we could work together. The Eco Club wanted to do something to combat climate change, so we came up with the idea to get Eco Clubs from Borders schools together. SBCAN provided funding for the first Youth Green Summit, which was held in September 2024. Pupils from 4 schools heard from local businesses who were combatting climate change and then we discussed what we could do. The pupils wanted to have a joint action in Spring 2025, but it proved very difficult to get all the pupils together at the same time. However, SBCAN officers took this idea and opened it up to the whole Borders Community, funding over 65 activities in schools, green spaces and community hubs involving 3500 people. We used our funding to buy wood which was cut into kits to make bird boxes. Our Eco Club members worked with P7 to assemble the bird boxes in our technical department. They had loads of fun doing this STEM challenge and it acted as a transition project, familiarising the P7 children with the technical department and power tools. Our facilities manager at the school used his volunteering hours to help us too. We made over 30 bird boxes which are being put up around the school grounds to help us with our Eco Schools Biodiversity topic and also given to the community including local care home. Operation Birdbox has been shared with the community via the local magazine.



# Climate Action Project E

Programme for Youth Green Summit  
Friday 27th September  
Inspire Area

11.00	Welcome from JGC	Mr. Pagan
11.05	Ice breakers	
	Group presentations	
11.30	Cafe recharge presentation	Alistair
11.45	Keynote speaker: Lucy Tyle	Dylan
12.30	Lunch	Cafe Recharge
1.00	Teach the Future/Climate 2050	Foley
1.30	Group Discussions	



**TAKE ACTION**

**TAKE POSITIVE ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY IN FEBRUARY 2025**

JOIN SCHOOLS, ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS ACROSS THE SCOTTISH BORDERS IN TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT, ENHANCE OR CONNECT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT.

**FUNDING AVAILABLE NOW - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!**

START THINKING ABOUT IDEAS NOW!!

FIND THE APPLICATION FORM HERE:  
[WWW.SBCAN.CO.UK](http://WWW.SBCAN.CO.UK)



# Climate Action Project F

School F have been engaging in a very exciting Climate Action project this year. We applied to the Woodland Trust for their free trees scheme and successfully secured over 200 trees to plant in our school grounds. A variety of trees were planted in order to encourage a diverse range of wildlife to visit our school grounds. The project was carried out between January and March this year and every single child and staff member within our school was able to plant a tree. The children have been involved in looking after the trees, watering when needed and protecting them from adverse weather. We enjoyed learning about the benefits of planting trees for attracting wildlife and combatting climate change. The children have been involved in discussions around long term positive action to combat climate change and recognise tree planting as one of these efforts. We are very excited about this positive, long term project which improves our school grounds, combats climate change and attracts wildlife.



# Climate Action Project F





# Climate Action Project G

This High School hosted a pupil-led Climate Summit September 2024, bringing together young people from all high schools across the area. This landmark event aimed to empower young people to shape the future of climate action in their schools and beyond. The summit represented a crucial next step in the journey toward sustainability for the High School, following their range of awards and certifications linked to carbon reduction initiatives. The summit celebrated these achievements while providing a platform for students to discuss solutions to the urgent challenges of climate change. The Climate Summit was the product of hard work and determination by an organising committee of pupils from the High School. These students have not only designed the structure of the day but have also taken the lead in inviting guest speakers and workshop facilitators to ensure an inclusive and engaging event and included MPs, MSPs, Keep Scotland Beautiful, INEOS and Learning through Landscapes. Committee members drafted invitations, designed graphics, and crafted messaging in the lead-up to the event. They ensured that the summit reflected the voice of young people throughout, from the opening presentation to the final discussion groups. During the event, representatives from schools led the summit with a short film highlighting the schools' environmental achievements over the past year. Throughout the day, volunteers from two High Schools facilitated workshops, supported delegates, and lead discussions aimed at producing the "Falkirk Agreement"—a document detailing students' hopes for national and international climate action. The final version of the agreement was shared with key stakeholders, ensuring students' voices were heard at higher levels of decision-making.

# Climate Action Project G



Great to see our young people and guests engaging so productively at the [redacted] Climate Summit - well done everyone! [#RRSA](#) [#Article29](#)



[redacted] High School hosted an exciting, student-led Climate Summit this week, bringing together young people from all high schools across the area. Read the full story below 📌



# Climate Action Project H

This Community Group would like to nominate Primary School H for special recognition. We have been involved with the school for the last 20 years but especially in the last few years. Two members of our group are particularly involved with a growing things initiative and the group maintain the school grounds on a six week rotation of areas in the village. The acting head made an application to the community environment fund. We made a wish list of new raised beds and a Shetland polycrub, able to withstand high winds. The area has been well used ever since with children taking part in gardening lessons on a weekly basis. Every child in the school takes part from just before Easter till the end of the autumn term. The school takes charge of watering during the week. Monty Don has visited it for his British Gardens programme and the minister of agriculture will be visiting in June. The produce is used in the school, classes making soup and pasta dishes and sometimes added to the school dinners. In the curriculum they have learned about and installed a raingarden, built bird boxes, put in amphibian ladders and contributed to an annual art exhibition on topic of birds, wildflowers and insects. There is an after school gardening club and all P6 children take part in an outdoor residential leading to the John Muir Award. They use the local environment, a wood, and the RSPB reserve. The children made and installed bird boxes with the help of the woodland group and the local men's shed. Through assemblies the children educate the parents and the local community about what they have learnt.



# Climate Action Project H



# Climate Action Project I

We have recently introduced the new SCQF Level 6 Powering Futures award within our school. This year one of groups produced an exceptional project for their award. So much so, they have been asked to present at the All Energy conference at Sec, Glasgow in May. This group of girls have been so inspiring to watch and see how much they care about coming up with sustainable solutions to real world issues. They chose to work on a sustainable housing project, but what they produced was so much more. It was a new way of thinking, planning, and living. It showed so much hope for the future of sustainable projects, but also showing how important it is to be kind to supportive to people in need in the community. They have shared their project at a school level and have inspired more people to take this course in the coming year. Although a it is hypothetical project, it shows just how much care and passion there is for young people surrounding climate action.



Eco-Committee of  
the Year





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School A

Our Eco Committee does lots of wonderful things to try and make our school more sustainable and help the environment. Below is a list of some of the projects we have in our school:

- Travel tracker each morning- promoting leaving the car at home.
  - Bike Bus- encouraging children to cycle/ scoot to school.
  - Compost bin in every classroom (taken to the dinner hall).
  - Hot composter in playground- to create our own compost.
  - Food waste heroes- promoting empty plates in the dinner hall.
  - Meeting with dinner ladies and council to remove packaging in dinner hall- we now only use reuseable cups and serve fruit without packaging.
  - Planters in the playground- we grow and cook our own vegetables.
  - Planted a hedgerow- promoting biodiversity to attract new insects and birds.
  - School allotment- we grow more fruit and vegetables.
  - We have just started a school orchard where we have planted apple trees.
  - Beg Hotel in the playground.
  - We secured funding for a bike shed.
  - We partner with bike ability and woman on wheels to run sessions for parents and children.
  - We have a outdoor classroom which we use regularly to save energy and promote outdoor learning.
  - Classes visit the park every week to take their learning outside.
  - Air Pollution- We have been running an initiative for the last two years to educate parents and children around the issues air pollution has and how it effects our daily life. We attended an event at the City Chambers regarding this.
- We have other events throughout the year; a whole school focus on Sustainable Development Goals where parents were invited in to share the learning, Health and Well-being days, Eco- Days and so much more!

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School A



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School B

I would love to nominate the enthusiastic and inspirational Environmental Action Research Team at School B (EARTH), which has grown to over 30 members from S1-S6 attending weekly meetings. They form sub-teams to work on Changemaker projects which have included dealing with Lost Property, encouraging our community to fix items instead of buying new, getting planters made by Leith Men's Shed (then filled with compost and planted with >500 bulbs!), organising a 2-week E-waste collection with the Remakery, running termly Assemblies and managing our Eco Schools application online. For the planter project, three S2 pupils met with our Principal and coordinated a large group of volunteers to get the House planters in place. They are liaising with the Design & Technology department to make signs for the planters, and creating house planting teams to plan what to plant when the Spring bulbs are over. In between sessions, the team engages with articles and opportunities that are advertised on Teams. Overall, they are a motivated, inspiring group of young people and they richly deserve this accolade for driving positive change within the school and further afield, and building partnerships in the local area. They have also fundraised and planted trees for the Borders Forest Trust battling chilly conditions and thick grass to plant over 150 trees



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School B



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School C

I am honoured to nominate Eco-Committee C in recognition of their unwavering contribution to marine litter research and environmental stewardship. The dedication and commitment of a core group of the committee (years S1-S5) to helping the Marine Litter Working Group of the Scottish Islands Federation in tackling the issue of marine pollution in the Scottish Islands has been invaluable and continues to be so. The SIF-MLWG, in collaboration with the Marine Conservation Society, has implemented a robust citizen science project. The Eco-Committee has been instrumental in supporting this project, tirelessly helping to assess marine litter samples collected by our volunteers over the past year and a half. Their meticulous work has helped evidence the abundance and likely sources of litter items washing up on island coastlines, with their results submitted to the Marine Conservation Society's Beachwatch database.

Beyond this, they have helped hold corporate polluters accountable through the submission of brand-identifiable data to the Surfers Against Sewage Brand Audit. This dedication has not only generated vital environmental data but also driven meaningful action in tackling marine litter at both policy and industry levels. In addition, the group has supported advocacy and awareness-raising activities, including participation in the 'Shaping Our Shores' documentary produced by Caledonian Horticulture. This film showcases the vital work of various organizations and individuals combatting plastic pollution along Scotland's coastline. They have also provided interviews to BBC Alba to highlight the pressing issue of marine litter and its impact on Scottish island communities. All of this work is on top of ongoing environmental initiatives within their school, including managing recycling programs and conducting litter picks to promote sustainability at a local level.

The Eco-Committee's dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work exemplify the spirit of environmental activism and community-driven action. Their contributions extend beyond data collection to fostering a greater awareness of marine pollution issues and inspiring others to take action.

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School C





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School D

Eco-Committee D have been so inspiring over the past 2 years, we have members from P2-P7. We have been credited with our ECO Schools Green Flag and also 2 LEAF Awards with a special merit for working in the Community. We also won the YRE award 2024. This year we have been concentrating on our school grounds and the committee wanted to improve Biodiversity in our grounds and presented to the whole school and our Head Teacher. So we have planted fruit trees and won an award from the Tree Council for all the pupils and community to care and look after. We have also planted a wildlife garden and it is growing strong. We also work closely with our supportive Community where we visit the Community Garden, walks in the local environment and doing litter picks with families and another local school. We have also started to plant potatoes, carrots (which were amazing last year) and onions. We hope to use the vegetables within the school and to give out to the community. We have also taken part in all the KSB Live Lessons and are working on the 30 year celebration challenges. I feel our ECO Community inspire our whole school and community to improve our world and make things better for the future. We also take part in XXX in Bloom and our planter in the town is Spring Beautiful.

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School D



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School E

Committee E are a powerhouse of enthusiasm and innovation. They:

- are one of five schools in Scotland collaborating with Ostero, working towards zero waste schools & raising awareness of the circular economy.
- work with Incredible Edibles enhancing our school grounds and food production
- identified mixed waste as a priority, successfully prepared a funding bid for clear recycling bins and in just the first two weeks, recycled an astounding 1200 pieces of plastic and cans
- raised awareness through education, rewarding participation with a recycling raffle creating a buzz, with 'random recycler' days keeping engagement high
- are working to secure funding for food waste composting
- collaborated with our STEM club to create bug hotels, attracting insects for pollination & nutrient recycling
- in partnership with Woodland Trust, have planted over 100 trees that will absorb 2500kg of CO2/year
- secured grant funding to create a sensory garden, working alongside local community groups.
- created a fantastic presentation and workshop that they delivered to peers across ERC as part of our Sustainability Champions network.
- delivered staff workshops on reducing digital carbon footprint
- organise our uniform swap, with catwalk show, at our Transitions event. Marketed as a sustainability venture this dispels the stigma attached to second-hand clothing; it also reduces the cost of the school day
- collaborated with staff to shape our curriculum; providing feedback & and delivered the launch at assembly of our circular economy course, delivered in partnership with Y.E.S.
- partnered with BBC L.A.B. to produce a short film showcasing their inspiring experiences.



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School E



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School F

Our eco committee has representatives from P1 to P7 with opportunities for all classes to take part and explore eco issues. Our dream team share our wonderful work on our waklet and through whole school assemblies. We are battling Scotland's issue in our village - litter! All classes go out and do there bit collecting what they can, our eco committee are always raising awareness, tidying up the village and we have our yearly community litter pick encouraging the wider community to come and help! We will show the litter louts that they won't win! We are a very close team and when issues arise we deal with them - Lauchlin in P5 was disgusted with the rubbish in our MUGA so asked if we could do something about it? That day P5 did a twenty minute mad clean up and spruced it back up. Our outdoor learning area was badly damaged by the storm(this area is used everyday with nursery and P1/2) so a team of P5 children along with their two eco representatives from their class began clearing the debris, fixing areas and making it safe for the nursery and infant classes to use again - team work! P4 have also been upset by the litter effecting our local and wider community so asked to do a project on plastic and its journey, looking at what happens when things are dropped, where they end up, how long they take to decompose and how they negatively impact the environment and the wildlife. The eco committee have also set the school a climate change challenge - each class has an activity and lessons related to climate change to complete to broaden and extend their understanding of climate change and what they can do to help. We strive to keep our school and village looking great, we have recently undertaken the project of making the front our school beautiful adding plants.



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School F





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School G

In our school, the Sustainability Leaders make up our Eco Committee. We meet at least once each term and drive positive environmental change in the school and the wider community. We currently have over 100 recruits from all year groups S1-6, and all members join voluntarily. The Sustainability Leaders are pivotal in shaping Learning for Sustainability (LfS) and Eco Schools priorities, and many young people have benefitted from engaging in this leadership opportunity since 2021. Pupils show leadership by driving forward our initiatives and regularly raise awareness of LfS/Eco issues through school assemblies and our school tannoy system in addition to making suggestions for curriculum and wider school improvement. We also work in partnership with a variety of local community groups and businesses to enhance our delivery of LfS from day-to-day activities like recycling and litter, to hosting events with our partners

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School G



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School H

Our school's Eco-Committee, a diverse group representing nearly every year level, has demonstrated exceptional commitment to environmental sustainability. Their efforts culminated in the award of our first Green Flag. Notably, students undertook extensive tree planting initiatives, built bird and bat boxes to enhance local biodiversity, and addressed litter concerns through comprehensive clean-ups, data analysis, and public reporting in the local press. Their leadership extended to organising a school-wide community event, fostering awareness of environmental initiatives. This project showcases their ability to drive meaningful change, often pushing beyond their comfort zones to achieve remarkable results.





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School I

I have to nominate simply the best Eco-Committee I have ever had the pleasure of working with in my almost 20 years as an eco schools coordinator. We've journeyed the last 2 Green Flag awards together through Covid lockdowns and from S1 to S6. This is the most mixed year group and the most motivated I have ever known. Be it cooperating with outside agents eg the Woodland trust, the local council, the rotary, theatre groups, the university or local community groups to realise biodiversity projects; or being hands on, assembling bird box kits and visiting local catchment primary schools to help their children with hands on activities - they have excelled in everything they've done. Regularly celebrating and publishing their activities through the schools social media and assemblies etc they have inspired and recruited volunteers from every year group to help us with many of our projects. Parents have also been involved through their enthusiasm and positivity. Particularly of note is that these pupils are from one of the lowest SMID areas in Scotland - and that they have applied themselves to improve their immediate environment for the betterment of the entire community. Their activities even attracted an award for rural skills from LANTRA with our chairperson accepting the award in person at their national event at Crieff Hydro. It is a privilege achieving and accomplishing worthwhile awards & projects with these exceptional young people and their productive experience with Eco-Schools I am certain will have given them enhanced skills to contribute more meaningfully and thoughtfully to whatever futures they have ahead of them. What a wonderful bunch of human beings!

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School I



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School J

Eco-Committee J deserves to win since they have worked extremely hard all year towards their award alongside many other outdoor learning awards/workshops. They showed leadership during our Climate Ready Classroom day by leading discussions and activities during the day which involved thinking about and creating aims to tackle climate change. The children held an assembly to inspire change within the school linked to recycling of crisp packets, batteries and using reusable plastic tubs to lessen the single use plastic waste. The committee involved the whole school in their travel aim during a "wheels" day, recycling crisp packets, turning of switches when they are not in use and 3 litter picking events.





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School K

Our school has worked tirelessly to submit our first Eco Flag application, with our dedicated Eco Committee leading the way. From Primary 1 to Primary 7, our pupils have embraced their roles as both changemakers and advocates, ensuring that every voice is heard and every action counts. But our efforts don't stop there—our entire school community is involved, including our Parent Council, parents, volunteers, and local organisations. Together, we are making a real difference. Our pupils have approached the Eco Schools ethos with incredible passion and enthusiasm. They are not only eager to speak up about environmental issues but also determined to take meaningful action. From transforming our school grounds to carrying out beach cleans, planting an orchard, and creating vital wildlife habitats, our young eco-leaders are making a lasting impact on both our school and the wider community. We have also woven environmental learning into our curriculum, making it a priority to educate and inspire the next generation of eco-conscious citizens. By working alongside Eco Schools Scotland, GM Corsehill, Incredible Edible, our local Council, and the Rhins and Luce Red Squirrel Network etc., our pupils are learning first-hand about sustainability and community collaboration. Through their efforts, our pupils are actively exercising their rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, SHANARRI, and the Sustainable Development Goals. They are growing into responsible citizens, effective contributors, independent learners, and confident individuals—ready to take on their role as future custodians of our planet.

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School K



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School L

Our Eco Group or as we like to call ourselves 'Laudato Si' Leaders' is at the heart of our school community. Inspired by our own Catholic ethos and Pope Francis' call to care for our common home, we are committed to making a positive impact on the environment, both within our school and beyond. At school, we are actively involved in a range of eco-driven initiatives to make our own environment more sustainable. We run regular class litter picks, tending to our school vegetable garden and looking after our own outdoor library. We also ran classroom 'Trashion Shows' and a whole school Art Exhibition promoting sustainability and invited parents to come in and be involved. We focused on Scotland food banks and collected donations for 'Edinburgh Food Project'. We also launched a recycling initiative, with every class having designated recycling bins to promote responsible waste disposal. We are dedicated to making small but meaningful changes to protect our planet and classrooms. We take the most pride in our partnership with XXX Community Garden, where we have our very own school plot. This hands-on experience allows us to learn about growing food, caring for nature, and working together to create a greener future. We are fortunate to collaborate with Gardener Gabi from 'Edible Estates' who shares her knowledge of sustainable gardening, helping us grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers that support our own biodiversity. Our time at the community garden is so rewarding and reminds us of our responsibility to be good stewards of God's creation. We are also incredibly proud to have been awarded our Eco-Schools Green Flag Award for the second time. This is a testament to the dedication of our pupils, staff, and wider community.



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School L



# Eco-Committee of the Year: School M

School M Eco Ambassadors have exemplified exceptional leadership and dedication throughout the year. Despite the majority being in S3, they have shown unwavering commitment to creating a more sustainable school and community. They dedicated every Tuesday lunchtime, along with additional personal time, to running a variety of successful events and initiatives that have had a tangible impact. These initiatives have included: Fashion Swap Shops: Promoting sustainability through clothing exchanges. These are now embedded into the school calendar. Litter Picks: Both in the school grounds and within the local community, helping to keep the environment clean. Community Partnerships: Liaising with local organizations to strengthen connections between the school and wider sustainability efforts such as Town M in Bloom. Christmas Fayre Stall: Showcasing creativity by using discarded materials from different subjects to create items for sale and raising their own funds. Bug Hotels: Enhancing biodiversity within the school grounds. Educational Quizzes & Resources: Creating engaging activities and materials for different departments, fostering cross-curricular links and getting the whole school involved. Planting Ingredients for Home Economics: Contributing to the school's sustainability through gardening efforts. Attending CPD Sessions: Furthering their own knowledge by attending continuous professional development (CPD) sessions on sustainability and sharing this knowledge with the school community. Their work has not only inspired their peers but has also created long-lasting cross-curricular and community connections. The Eco Ambassadors have shown true leadership by balancing their academic commitments with their passion for sustainability. The remarkable amount of time and effort they've dedicated to these initiatives, all on their own initiative, highlights their determination to make a difference.

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School M continued

This reflects the remarkable dedication the students have shown in their efforts, while also highlighting the broad and varied nature of their work. It's clear they've made a significant impact, and their actions deserve recognition for the leadership and commitment they've demonstrated over the past year.





# Eco-Committee of the Year: School N

The Eco Committee at High School N has been exceptional this year. It is comprised for S5 and S6 pupils. They have gone above and beyond this year, whilst having fun doing it! During their Green Flag application they have planted almost 200 trees in the school grounds, they have raised funds to support two toilet twinning projects and sponsor two animal spaces with the SSPCA, they lead a Christmas donations appeal for the SSPCA, they were chosen to lead and facilitate the first Learning for Sustainability festival within East Renfrewshire, they have learned more about sustainable processes from Scottish Water and Viridor, and built bug hotels from leftover packing materials they collected from school deliveries. They have then shared this across the school through their amazing Eco Committee board and at year group assemblies. Their enthusiasm and ideas have lead me (their Eco co-ordinator) to want to do better to support them on their Learning for Sustainability journey. They actively plan for the future and have even more ideas they want to follow through next year, such as running clubs and groups to inspire the younger pupils in our school community. They decided at the start of their application they wanted to work on small projects that had direct and measurable success and change – and they have carried this out to a T!

# Eco-Committee of the Year: School N



Eco-Coordinator of  
the Year



**Eco-Coordinator of  
the Year  
2025**



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person A

EC has been working hard to promote environmental awareness and sustainability in schools throughout Fife since 2008. He's been involved in creating wildflower meadows, orchards, woodland areas, ponds, raised bed gardens, sensory gardens for ASN pupils, extensive bulb planted areas; building, providing and hanging bird boxes, facilitating leadership within numerous Eco Committees and has generally been an inspiring and enthusiastic teacher who genuinely cares for the environment. EC has been adept at creating links throughout our communities, this includes Rotary Clubs, community hubs, secondary schools, catchment primary schools, churches, local business, charities, supermarkets, LEA departments and various other outside agencies.

Academically, EC has also helped many pupils in secondary schools attain Climate Literacy Awards and has introduced the NPA N3/4 Climate Change and Sustainability qualifications. All of these successes led to his being asked to write an article last May for the GTC Scotland magazine, in which he promoted the importance the work Eco Schools Scotland do and the positive benefits it has for students, schools and communities. Last month EC and the Eco-Committee again attained EcoSchools status for which they undoubtedly surpassed what was expected of them. In fact, our school's DWP coordinator requested that he apply to LANTRA for the ALBAS (Awards for Land-based and Aquaculture Skills) and after a successful interview procedure we have now been invited to attend the award ceremony later in March. Our category? Best Secondary School in Scotland! EC has been motivating students and raising the profile of secondary schools for many years now, it would be absolutely wonderful if he were to gain this award.

# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person A



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person B

EC has had the biggest impact in our school drive to become more Eco Friendly- the list is endless but here are a few of the initiatives she's implemented in our school:

- EC has secured us a hot composter in our school playground and is training the staff on how to use. The children will support the running of it.
- EC has created planters in the school playground (we grow and cook our own veg!)
- Allotment- EC had revamped our allotment ready for spring & to grow new produce.
- She has created Bug hotels in the playground.
- She runs the school Bike bus.
- Food recycling- she initiated every class to have a compost bin so we can recycle in the dinner hall.
- She hosted a meeting with the council and our school eco committee to remove packaging from dinner hall- with a successful outcome!
- EC got us funding for a Bike shed at school.
- She organised Bike ability and woman wheels for parents.
- She's trained in Forest school and helps train staff.
- Teacher training outdoor learning
- Gal Gael partnership- community hub
- EC creates an Outdoor classroom for the school
- She helps run the school Eco Committee

I'm sure there's much more in the background- but as her stage partner and Eco committee support- I learn (as we all do) so much from EC. We are very lucky to have someone so passionate about improving the future for our young ones.



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person B



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person C

EC has been an integral part of the Eco-Committee for many, many years. EC is committed to the protecting the environment and is passionate about all things Eco Schools. Under EC's stewardship the school have achieved 8 green flag awards, with a new application being submitted imminently . EC is always seeking out community groups and local partners to help support the schools' sustainability goals, whether that be setting up a wildflower meadow in the school playing fields or planting hundreds to hedgehog highways to protect local wildlife. EC leads by example, you will often find him cycling to work - even in sub-zero temps. We want to celebrate not only the commitment he has made to our school and the countless lives he has touched but also his commitment to protecting the planet.



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person C





# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person D

EC is an absolute champion for Eco Schools. She only works one day a week in our school office but she is totally all over our Eco application and keeping us all going with our targets. Our school culture shows that Eco-schools is embedded in our DNA and this is down to the work that EC has done. EC keeps up to date with all new things to do with Eco but she also makes this real and explains that the reason we are doing what we are doing is for our world and not to get a flag. EC champions this also in our local community and shares her gardening experience with others. As a very small school EC does an amazing job at making us all things Eco from installing hippos in our toilets, to one world picnics, to composting and growing food in our allotment and all in one day a week.



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person E

EC's nomination for the award is truly well-deserved due to her exceptional dedication and innovative approach. Here are the detailed reasons why she stands out.

**Inspiring Action in Children:** EC has a remarkable ability to engage children aged 2-5 in meaningful activities that capture their voices and interests. She uses creative methods to encourage children to express themselves. By fostering a nurturing environment, she ensures that each child feels heard and valued, which significantly boosts their confidence and willingness to participate.

**Motivating and Supporting Others:** EC's leadership extends beyond the playroom. She has been instrumental in motivating and supporting the Committee by organising regular meetings, providing clear guidance, and encouraging collaborative decision-making. Her positive attitude and unwavering support have helped staff to stay focused and driven towards achieving their goals.

**Coordinating Actions and Delegating Tasks:** EC has expertly coordinated various activities and delegated tasks within the action plan. She ensures that each team member understands their role and responsibilities, fostering a sense of ownership and accountability. Her strategic delegation has led to efficient execution of the action plan, resulting in significant progress and achievements.

**Commitment to Child-Centred Pedagogy & Practice:** EC remains true to the centre's child-centred pedagogy and practice by always prioritising the needs and interests of the children. She integrates their feedback into the planning and execution

# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person E





# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person F

EC is a class teacher and Eco-Schools coordinator. She is passionate about environmental issues, and goes above and beyond when it comes to the Eco-Schools initiative. By putting extraordinary effort into bringing awareness and education of Eco issues into the classroom, through planning interesting and relevant activities, she ensures that she involves all members of the school. With her unwavering energy, particularly with involving the school in the local community, EC is hugely dedicated to improving everyone's awareness of climate change, and how reduce the negative impact our actions can have on the environment. The children have participated in litter picks, sent out wildflower seedballs to members of the community and visited a windfarm close by to improve their understanding of renewable energy. There is a community garden within school, planned, planted and managed by staff and children, from which many people from the local community benefit by harvesting fruit and vegetables with very few food miles. The children also do a weekly recycling tally (crisp packets, batteries, pens, plastic lids collected from within school, as well as from the community), with a monthly newsletter from the Eco committee being sent out to the community to keep them updated. The work EC does means we currently have a Green Flag Award (the third we have received) and are working on the fourth. She helped the school achieve Gold in the Greener Gateway Awards in 2024 and the children have participated in the 'Sustrans Walk and Wheel Week' and the 'Walk to School Week' for many years. EC is utterly committed to educating about reducing climate change through leading and helping the children in their various impactful environmental actions.

# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person F



# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person G

I would like to nominate EC because as Eco-Coordinator she goes far beyond what is expected. She has organised it so that every class, teacher, student and parent knows what we do as an eco school and what we want to do need to be successful. More recently she has worked on the schools global goals and gaining a rights of the child silver award. She has also linked with local community leaders developing school links with the community orchard. I cannot praise EC to you enough as she is the epitome of what every school needs to be successful. I should also add we have achieved many green flags because she is passionate about keeping our planet healthy.





# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person H

EC leads our eco school developments with a passion. She takes charge in organising our recycling - both paper and clothing and organises our annual community litter pick. She reaches out to local agencies in our community to involve them in looking after their community. This year, with her P7 class she had led the charge with the Dump Destroyers who have petitioned to have their area cleaned up. This generated media coverage and has prompted local councillors to get involved along with a local building firm. She strives to give her pupils a voice and let them know they are agents of change.




# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person I

'EC is an inspirational teacher. Her passion for our Eco Club and Sustainability is amazing. She really cares about this area. She is so creative and she gives us all opportunities as pupils to make a difference in our school and local community. That is what I like most about our Eco Club and EC – it is about how we as pupils can make a difference together. EC leads the club but she makes sure that we are the ones that are leading the change.' The above statement is from one of our Eco Leaders at our High School. The Eco Leaders are led by EC, an RMPS teacher in the school. In the past year, EC has led the following in our school; • Re-accredited with our Green Flag Award with additional commendation for leading outstanding work in Climate Action. Recognition from OCW Carbon Neutral International Award or Silver and Bronze ratings • Termly litter picks with our local Community Council and outside organisations such as Persimmon Homes • Increased the number of Eco Leaders in our school up to 40 pupils • Leading a review of how all curricular areas have Sustainability as part of their Broad General Education courses • Leading the first ever Falkirk Schools Climate Summit which resulted in an agreement between all Falkirk Secondary schools to focus on 3 agreed articles. This led to a motion for recognition at the Scottish Parliament. EC is leading positive change in our school and local community when it comes to all things Eco. We are all very proud of her and grateful she is a part of our High School and want her commitment to be recognised

# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person I



Great to see our young people and guests engaging so productively at the  Climate Summit - well done everyone! #RRSA #Article29



 High School hosted an exciting, student-led Climate Summit this week, bringing together young people from all high schools across the area. Read the full story below 📌





# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person J

EC is an educator whose dedication goes far beyond the classroom. Through the Eco Ambassadors club, she has empowered students to become environmental leaders. After pupils in S2 and S3 expressed interest, she helped launch the club, always centering student voice and collaboration to create a space where young people feel heard, valued, and inspired. Under her guidance, the club has become a vibrant, pupil-led initiative spanning all year groups. From assemblies to the S1 Freshers Fair, she supported students in promoting the club and engaging the wider school community. She encouraged leadership, giving pupils the confidence to share ideas, conduct reviews, and take ownership of meaningful projects. She has fostered a culture of action and inclusion, arranging collaborations with senior management and the PTA to ensure eco-efforts reflect the wider school's voice. Weekly meetings have led to real-world impact — from the Fashion Swap Shop and Christmas Fayre to outdoor litter picks and leadership with local primaries. Her support also enabled partnerships like XXXX in Bloom and learning experiences such as the East Dunbartonshire Sustainable Barista session, deepening pupils' understanding of everyday sustainability. The results are clear: a whole-school environmental review, greater global citizenship awareness, a focus on healthy living, and strategic plans for waste and grounds improvement. She didn't just guide students — she inspired them to lead. Her mentorship has built confident young changemakers now engaging their peers, staff, and local community. EC has sparked a movement. Her unwavering support, motivation, and respect for student agency make her a truly deserving nominee — one whose impact is both meaningful and lasting.

# Eco-Coordinator of the Year: Person J



# Thank you!

Thank you for reading through these entries. We hope you've enjoyed learning more about the amazing work that passionate young people are carrying out across Scotland, guided by some inspirational educators.

