

# Help us inspire creative, practical and tasty learning for sustainability



**Sponsor the Pocket Garden Design Competition**

# Who we are

**Keep Scotland Beautiful is your charity inspiring action for our environment.**

We run the Climate Action Schools programme which supports educators and pupils to explore, learn and act on sustainability-related issues.

As part of this we created and have delivered the Pocket Garden Design Competition for Scottish nursery, primary and secondary schools since 2016.

*"We've supported Scotland's young people to learn more about environmental sustainability for 30 years through our various programmes including Eco-Schools, Young Reporters for the Environment and Pocket Garden."*

*"The Pocket Garden Design competition is well-loved by pupils and educators as a frame for learning and teaching outdoors, practising skills for sustainable living and fostering creative thinking."*

*"We are seeking funding to offer this competition that provides experience of sustainable approaches to design and construction, supports first-hand experience of nature and growing and connects young people to the world around them."*



Barry Fisher  
Chief Executive



# 100,000

pupils have benefitted from Pocket Gardens  
since 2016 across Scotland



# What is Pocket Garden?

**Pocket Garden is an annual competition for nurseries, primary and secondary schools in Scotland to design a small garden that is good for wildlife, grows food for people and re-uses something. Judges select which schools' designs will go forward to the showcase. Those schools build and grow their Pocket Garden to appear in the national online showcase where the public vote for their favourite garden and best garden for wildlife, food for people, and the annual theme are awarded.**

Pocket Garden introduces and inspires sustainable approaches to gardening. A competition brochure is produced each year which explains the competition rules and lists curriculum links.

The scale of the gardens is inclusive, and the learning and skills gained can be applied more widely in the school grounds and at home.

A new theme each year inspires imaginative designs. Themes from previous years include: The Sustainable Development Goals; Children's Stories, Nature's Engineers and, Our Heritage.



# Pocket Garden Stories

Schools tell the story of their Pocket Garden in photos and text. Here are some of the things that they say:

## LEARNING OUTDOORS

"The P7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the design process and had a lot of fun imagining what we could put in our garden. They really liked taking their learning outdoors and enjoyed this way of working."

(Castle Douglas Primary)

## GREAT COMPETITION

"It's such a great competition as we all learn so much. Looking forward to entering next year again."

(Linnvale Primary school)

## ENTHUSIASM AND PRIDE

"The families, their children, and the wider community contributed to the making of our fantastic pocket garden with great enthusiasm and pride, sparking a wonderful sense of community spirit."

(Moorpark Early Years class)

## INVALUABLE

"...I think the skills we all learned during the pocket garden creation have been invaluable."

(Louden Academy Communication Centre)

You can see stories from the 2025 Pocket Garden showcase here [www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/pocket-garden/showcase/](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/pocket-garden/showcase/)



In 2026 Pocket Garden will be celebrating its

# 10<sup>th</sup> birthday

You are all invited to the party!



# Our ask

**We need your sponsorship to help expand the reach of the competition and to purchase prizes for winning schools.**

Behind each amazing Pocket Garden, there is a whole school community of teachers, janitors, local businesses, local churches and community gardens, friends and family for example. Your sponsorship would add value to their donations of time and support.

The 20 member organisations of the Garden for Life Forum are consistent promoters of Pocket Garden through their communications.

## **We are looking for £5,000 to cover:**



- ✓ A commemorative award for all schools with designs selected for the 10th Birthday Showcase.
- ✓ An award of £250 for gardening or outdoor learning equipment for the three Pocket Gardens chosen by the judges as the best translation from design to real garden for each of the three themes.
- ✓ An award of £250 for gardening or outdoor learning equipment for the three Pocket Gardens voted by the public as their favourite.



# Our ask #2

**If Pocket Garden fits with your values and you would like to build a relationship with us, your sponsorship will support us to continue to grow the competition in the academic year 2026 – 2027.**

We would be delighted to discuss a new theme for the year with you that aligns with a shared vision for the future. You can sponsor the whole programme or contribute a smaller amount to a collective pot.

## **We are looking for £50,000 to cover:**



- ✓ A part time officer.
- ✓ Provide training and resources to schools, practitioners and pupils.
- ✓ Prizes for successful Pocket Garden schools to support gardening or outdoor learning.
- ✓ Input from a team of people working across the charity who provide management, finance, web, communications, and design services.



# Timeframe



## January 2026

Launch of competition.



## February 2026

Designs are selected to appear in the showcase.



## March – June 2026

Schools build and grow their Pocket Garden.



## Early June 2026

Schools send in photos of their finished garden to help tell the story of their garden and how they created it.



## Mid-June 2026

Online showcase opens. The public votes for their favourite Pocket Garden and the judges select the best translations from design to garden for each theme.

We are offering a range of opportunities for you to be a part of our communications. These include the initial launch of the competition nationally, regional announcements of the designs selected to go forward to the showcase, the launch of the national showcase for public voting and finally the announcement of the winners of the judges' awards and the public vote.



# Benefits to you

**By sponsoring the Pocket Garden Design Competition, you will be investing in the awareness, knowledge and skills of young people to support biodiversity, eat fresh, healthy foods and take positive action for our environment.**

**In return you gain enhanced visibility and positive brand association.**



## **We will ensure:**

- ✓ Your logo is on assets and features on our website.
- ✓ Your business is referenced as a key sponsor on our website, social media content and digital promotion. In addition you'll be invited to provide a quote to feature in our press releases and newsletters. In 2025 our collective Pocket Garden media coverage reached more than 1.7 million people.



**For more information get in touch with:**

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We support the Sustainable Development Goals.

Keep Scotland Beautiful is your charity for our environment. We work with you to help combat climate change, reduce litter and waste, restore nature and biodiversity and improve places.



Keep Scotland Beautiful

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