

AMBASSADOR SCHOOL CASE STUDY



Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School

North Road Ballymoney Co. Antrim BT53 6BW

Number of pupils	Age range	Joined Eco-Schools	Number of Green Flags	Date of last Green Flag
332	5-11	2007	8	June 2025

At Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School we provide pupils of all ages and abilities with a wide range of opportunities to develop and extend their interests and skills through an extensive range of after school activities.

Within our school, Year 4-7 pupils can apply to be a class representative on the school's Eco-Committee. Pupils put themselves forward for the role, and following their class presentation they receive votes from their classmates. The successful candidates meet monthly with Mrs Murphy our Eco-Committee Leader. The Eco Committee have organised whole school events and projects to take a lead in showing an awareness and a responsibility of the importance of caring for environmental and sustainable issues in our school and Global World. This year we have participated in three new projects, a Bike/Book Swap Day to celebrate World Book Day, Trocaire Game Changers Programme and the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust, Bike Project.

Our school has also been involved in community projects with the support of Conservation Volunteers helping with the creation of our school garden and

polytunnel. Educational visits and trips occur regularly to enhance pupil learning and care about our local environment, for example Year 4 had an interesting visit to link with the residents of Cramsie Court to plant sunflowers.

The Eco Committee and pupils in our school have planted and grown a wide variety of vegetables and fruit in our school garden. We have also participated in RHS Campaigns and the kitchen staff helped the Eco Committee to make freshly made vegetable soup, from the potatoes, leeks, carrots and onions grown in our school garden. Our “School Soup Project,” created a huge interest within school and the wider community about our fresh vegetables, harvested from our school garden. The vegetable soup was delicious, and the kitchen staff wish to help us again with this fork to food school project!

The Eco Committee have also recently been involved in monitoring and evaluating the lunchtime waste in the school Dining Hall and from this a Food Waste School Project, achieved a reduction in the food waste bin and plastic litter waste.

Whole school Action Days regularly take place each term, with Sustrans Ditch the Dark Day, RSPBs BIG Schools' Birdwatch, Outdoor Classroom Day UK, Eco-Schools Wear Green Be Green Days and Global Action Days, such as Earth Day, all contributing towards our Eco-Schools Green Flag programme of raising awareness of local and global issues in our school community and caring for the sustainability of our wider world.

Topic Actions:

Our Eco – Schools Action Plan this year has focused on Outdoor learning with all classes participating in Outdoor Classroom Day UK, gardening and outdoor ABL. The main topics of Healthy Living, Transport and Biodiversity all link in with our school Take 5 initiative and the Rights Respecting School Award. Pupils at Ballymoney Model IPS have taken part



in whole school, Global Action Days and events by the Walk and Wheel Cycle Trust, such as the BIG Walk and Wheel Challenge and Eco-Schools events and projects.



Sharing Good Practice Actions:

This year, we participated in a new project, by the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust, the Recycled Bike Project. The school was presented by the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust, a donation of bikes and scooters. This project has been shared within our school community via the School App, Facebook Page and was also featured in the Walk Wheel cycle Trust NI Spring Newsletter.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The Eco -Schools Committee this year, have monitored the impact of Active Travel Day and the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust BIG Walk and Wheel Challenge by collating the number of pupils who walked, scooted or cycled to school. Special spot prizes, donated by the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust were placed on all the scooters and bicycles left at the front of the school.





Mentoring School:

Our extensive areas of grass and sports tracks have enabled the neighbouring Ballymoney Nursery School, to make use of these outdoor facilities for sports practices and teddy bear picnics.



Outdoor Classroom Area



Book Swap World Book Day



Harvest of fresh garden produce, onions, potatoes, peas, beetroot.



Extensive playground space for outdoor activities.



Fresh fruit blackcurrants, raspberries, gooseberries and rhubarb.

Contact

For more information on this Eco-Schools Ambassador School, see details below.

Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School

Eco-Coordinator: Mrs June Murphy

Years involved in the Eco-Schools Programme: 19 years

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