

AMBASSADOR SCHOOL CASE STUDY



Jones Memorial Primary School

2 Cappog Road, Enniskillen, BT74 5AJ

Number of pupils	Age range	Joined Eco-Schools	Number of Green Flags	Date of last Green Flag
113	4-11 years	2010	8	2025

Jones Memorial Primary School is a small rural primary school with 113 pupils aged 4–11, situated on the outskirts of Enniskillen. The school has been actively involved in the Eco-Schools programme since 2010 and has proudly achieved eight Eco-School Green Flags, with the most recent awarded in 2025.

Sustainability is embedded across school life through our dedicated Eco-Committee, made up of pupils from across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, supported by staff and senior leadership. Pupils take real responsibility for driving change within the school and wider community, developing confidence, leadership, and a strong sense of environmental stewardship.

Our school grounds support learning through outdoor classrooms, raised beds, composting areas, and wildlife habitats, which are used regularly across the curriculum. Eco-themes are integrated into literacy, numeracy, and WAU, ensuring sustainability is not treated as an add-on but as a core part of learning.

We work closely with parents, local organisations, and community partners, sharing our eco-journey and encouraging positive environmental behaviour beyond the school gates. We are particularly proud of the way pupil voice drives decision-making and how our eco-work has helped shape a whole-school ethos of care, responsibility, and action.

Topic Actions:

During our most recent Eco-Schools action plan (2024–2025), Waste was identified as a major focus through pupil-led environmental reviews. The Eco-Committee recognised the need to reduce the impact of single-use plastics, textiles, food waste, litter, and general waste disposal, both within school and the wider community.

One of our flagship projects was our large-scale bottle-top recycling initiative, delivered in partnership with SchoolCycled. Pupils led collections not only in school but also through local churches, families, and community groups, significantly extending the project beyond the school gates. To date, pupils have collected almost 1,500kg of bottle tops, equivalent to approximately 300,000 bottle tops, resulting in over 1,000kg of recycled plastic. This plastic was transformed into new playground equipment, providing pupils with a tangible outcome from their actions and reinforcing sustainability through visible impact.

The Eco-Committee also led projects focusing on textile waste, including partnerships with Cash for Clobber, a Uniform Swap Shop, and themed swaps such as Christmas jumper and Halloween costume exchanges. Over 500kg of clothing has already been diverted from landfill, saving over 12,500kg of CO₂, while supporting families and promoting reuse.

Food waste and sustainability were addressed through participation in the Zero Waste



Programme (Northern Ireland Resource Network), with workshops delivered in partnership with FareShare and Habitat for Humanity. Pupils have also begun developing a school vegetable garden, funded to support local food use and reduce waste within the school canteen.

Throughout the year, pupils also took responsibility for:

- School-wide waste audits through the Wheelie Big Challenge
- Improving waste separation by ensuring every classroom had clearly labelled recycling and general waste bins
- Leading assemblies to promote waste reduction and correct disposal

These actions empowered pupils to understand the environmental impact of waste and take meaningful, measurable action.





Sharing Good Practice Actions:

As an Eco-Schools Ambassador School, Jones Memorial Primary School actively shares effective practice and learning beyond our own setting.

Our bottle-top recycling project has become a model of community based sustainability, with pupils engaging churches, families, and local organisations to increase recycling levels. This project has been shared informally with other schools and visitors as an example of how pupil-led initiatives can scale beyond the classroom.

We have also welcomed external organisations and other schools into our setting to experience sustainability learning in action. This included hosting the GeoEnergy Discovery Centre, where pupils from our school and another local school explored geothermal energy and renewable alternatives together.

Our Eco-Committee regularly shares updates through:

- School assemblies
- Newsletters and community communications
- Displays highlighting real data, impact, and outcomes

Pupils confidently explain their projects, methods, and results to visitors, demonstrating leadership, ownership, and a clear understanding of sustainability issues.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Monitoring and evaluation are central to our Eco-Schools practice and are driven by the Eco-Committee, supported by staff.

Progress was monitored through:

- Baseline and follow-up waste audits as part of the *Wheelie Big Challenge*
- Measuring quantities collected (e.g. bottle tops, clothing)
- Travel audits linked to active travel initiatives
- Pre- and post-litter-pick surveys during Big Spring Clean 2025

Data and findings were shared during Eco-Committee meetings and whole-school assemblies, allowing pupils to evaluate success and adjust actions where needed. This approach ensures that sustainability work is reflective, evidence-based, and continuously improving rather than one-off.



Mentoring School:

Jones Memorial Primary School has supported other schools by sharing expertise, resources, and reassurance around Eco-Schools practice.

In particular, we have:

- Shared examples of successful action plans
- Demonstrated how to embed sustainability authentically across the curriculum
- Provided guidance on pupil-led audits, monitoring, and evidence-gathering

This support has helped other schools build confidence, increase pupil ownership, and progress meaningfully within the Eco-Schools programme, while also strengthening our own reflective practice as an Ambassador School.



Outdoor Learning with FODC



Newly Developed Forest Trail



Zero Waste Champions



Litter picking local housing areas



Tree planting with TCV



Vegetable bed planting

Contact

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

Jones Memorial Primary School

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