

# Sustainable City Education Programme

The Sustainable City Education Programme aims to help York schools to reduce their carbon emissions and waste by 10%. This exciting project is funded by the City of York Council, the Local Area Agreement Fund (York Without Walls), Friends of St Nicholas Fields and York Rotters. It is helping schools across York to deliver on the City of York Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment.



Photo: The Press, York

## Supporting the Sustainable Schools Framework

The SCEP supports the Sustainable Schools Framework and gives schools a head start in engaging with all eight doorways. The project encourages a whole-school approach to tackling energy use and waste and puts the children at the driving seat in taking action.

## Curriculum-linked content

The SCEP centres around six key sessions aimed at Key Stage 2. The sessions cover the issues of renewable and non-renewable energy, climate change, energy efficiency and sustainability. The pupils also become Special Energy Investigators and scour the school looking for evidence of energy being wasted. The pupils also undertake a Waste Audit to see what is being thrown away and how this can be reduced. This data then forms the basis of an Action Plan to help the school make big savings.

*"It's such a treat to have fantastic fully-resourced lessons!"*

**Year 4 teacher**

## Energy and Waste Monitoring

The pupils take charge of monitoring the school's energy use and waste, recording data and celebrating successes. The pupils share their knowledge with the school and the Climate Action Team to make this a successful whole-school approach.



Photo: The Press, York



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## Climate Action Teams

These groups are the nerve centre of the project in the school, comprising pupils, teachers, non-teaching staff, parents and governors. The teams support the energy monitoring process, and begin to consider long-term sustainability and how to progress through the Sustainable Schools doorways.

*"It was brilliant to see them so totally engaged. In fact, they spent the rest of the day trying to get me to turn off my computer to save energy"*

**Year 4 teacher, St Lawrence's school, York**

## Supporting the Eco-Schools Award

The SCEP encourages schools to apply for an Eco-Schools award, and schools that engage fully with the project will be well on the way to achieving Green Flag status, the highest award.

## 10:10 Campaign

The SCEP also allows schools to sign up for the high-profile 10:10 campaign, and provides a framework for reducing carbon emissions by 10% during 2010.



## Community Events and beyond the classroom

As part of the SCEP, the school will hold a community event to share the messages of sustainability with parents, carers and the wider community. The school will also receive leaflets to send home to help families save energy at home, learn about climate change and consider sustainable choices. Schools can also visit St Nicholas Fields Local Nature Reserve and Environment Centre to see sustainability in action.

For more information about the SCEP, speak to Rachel Simpson, Sustainable City Education Officer on 01904 427641 or email at [education@stnicksfields.org.uk](mailto:education@stnicksfields.org.uk). See the website [www.stnicksfields.org.uk](http://www.stnicksfields.org.uk) for further information.



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