



Eco-Schools

Volunteer Roles and Responsibilities Eco-Schools Green Flag Assessor

REPORTS TO	Volunteering Coordinator
SALARY	Voluntary Role – only expenses are paid
OFFICE BASE	Home based

ABOUT ECO-SCHOOLS

Eco-Schools is a global programme engaging millions of children across 64 different countries, making it the largest environmental schools programme in the world.

Environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy is the Eco-Schools National Operator for England, where more than 17,000 schools are registered and 1,200 schools currently hold the Eco-Schools Green Flag.

The programme provides a framework for learning and action around nine topics – biodiversity, energy, litter, global citizenship, healthy living, school grounds, transport, waste and water. It follows a very simple seven-step process to lead schools on their journey to achieving a Green Flag Award – find out more on how the programme works.

Schools work towards gaining one of three awards – Bronze, Silver and the prestigious internationally recognised Green Flag award, which symbolises excellence in the field of environmental activity. Bronze and Silver are both self accredited by school and Green Flag is externally assessed by Keep Britain Tidy's team of volunteer assessors.

ABOUT THE GREEN FLAG ASSESSOR ROLE

When schools join the Eco Schools programme they work towards a Green Flag Award. When they are ready to apply for an award they submit an application to Keep Britain Tidy and we then make arrangements for a Green Flag Assessor to visit the school to carry out an assessment.

As a volunteer Green Flag Assessor, you can carry out assessments on dates/times that are convenient with both you and the school. You can choose which schools you'd like to assess within a reasonable distance from your home/work base. We do ask that assessors commit to a minimum of four assessments per year.

An assessment takes between 1½ to 2 hours to complete and is usually done at around 10.00am in the morning or 1.00pm in the afternoon to fit in with school hours. Each assessor completes a brief Green Flag assessment report once the visit has been completed.

Becoming a Green Flag Assessor is a flexible, rewarding way for individuals to volunteer with Eco-Schools. The assessment visit is a positive experience for assessors, and schools are always excited at showcasing the hard work and success of their sustainability projects.

All volunteers who wish to carry out Green Flag Assessments are invited to attend a free assessor training course, which explains in much more detail about the Eco-Schools scheme and details on how to carry out an assessment.

KEY TASKS

- To carry out a minimum of two green flag assessments per year
- To read and review green flag applications prior to carrying out a green flag assessment
- To promptly contact schools and arrange green flag assessments once an agreement has been made to carry out a school assessment
- To contact the Eco-Schools team straight after an assessment to inform them of the result of the green flag assessment or discuss any issues.
- To promptly complete and return green flag assessment forms
- If willing, to attend Eco-School related events on behalf of the Eco-Schools team (arrangements subject to the agreement of individual assessors)

SKILLS / BEHAVIOURS

- Ability to work with school students of all age groups (nursery through to sixth form)
- Ability to make clear and impartial judgements
- Ability to speak with a wide ranging audience in a friendly yet professional manner
- Be proficient in the use of the Microsoft Office suite

KNOWLEDGE – key knowledge to be provided during assessor training

- A good understanding of the Eco-Schools Programme and the different award level criteria
- A good understanding of current government initiatives in school relating to environmental work and sustainable development
- A good understanding of the structure of the English school system
- Some understanding of related current award schemes that support the Eco-Schools programme

EXPERIENCE (all desirable attributes, but not all essential)

- Experience of working with school age students
- Experience of environmental / sustainable education
- Experience in writing reports

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The volunteer must have a willingness to travel sensibly and locally to carry out assessments (at Keep Britain Tidy's expense)
- The volunteer must provide identification and references to Keep Britain Tidy in accordance with the safer recruitment policy