

Green Schools Policy

We in Athy Model School have a keen interest in environmental issues and as a result we are part of An Taisce's Green Schools programme. To this end, we have set up a committee consisting of pupils and teachers. Our aim is to make environmental awareness and action an intrinsic part of school life.

Athy Model School's Actions

1. **Composting**- Each class has their own individual bin to collect the organic waste. Fruit peelings, sharpenings and teabags only are to be placed in this bin. A rota has been set up for the children take out the organic waste every second day.
2. **Paper Recycling**- Each class has a cream bin to collect waste paper and card for recycling. The cleaner empties this bin into the blue recycling bin located at the side of the school. Left over scraps of paper are being placed into a tray to be used for messages or for the children to draw on. Shredded paper will be kept for the composting bin and will be stored in the cleaner's store room. At the end of the year the shredded paper will be saved for the 6th class sale.
3. **Photocopying**- Photocopying will be double-sided where it is at all possible. School letters will be written 2/3/4 to a page to cut down on the waste.
4. **Litter**- Litter duty will be carried out once a week. The children will collect the litter in the school grounds and as far as the campus gate. Pupils are allowed to take out food to the playground, however food packaging is not to be taken outside.
5. **Information**- where possible information such as Parent's Association newsletter will be put onto the school's website. A copy will also be displayed on the school's noticeboard. Journals will be used for reminders for fundraising and up-coming events.
6. **Lunchbox Policy**- All wrappers and food packaging are to be taken home in the children's lunchboxes. The students will be encouraged to use recyclable drinks containers. The school does not allow fizzy drinks, sweets or crisps and the waste from these items is non-existent.
7. **Art Room**- Recyclable materials are to be stored in the Art room. These materials will be used when the children are doing certain strands of the curriculum (SESE, Art).
8. **Staff Room**- There is a bin for composting in the staff room. There is no bin for non-recyclable materials as staff must bring home their wrappers etc