



Quick Guide 8: Earning Rewards and Recognition Through Eco-Activities

This guide is for Headteachers, Eco-Coordination, Sustainability Leads, and Teachers in all state-funded primary and secondary schools in West Sussex.

Purpose

This guide explains how schools can earn rewards and gain recognition through Wastebuster's West Sussex programmes, including the **Planet Protector Challenge** (Primary), and national campaigns such as **Recycle to Read**.

How Your School Can Earn Rewards and Recognition with West Sussex Wastebuster

West Sussex Wastebuster offers schools the opportunity to earn rewards and gain recognition by participating in eco-activities and sustainability challenges. Through initiatives like the Planet Protector Challenge (for primary schools), and national campaigns such as Recycle to Read, schools can engage students, showcase achievements, and receive prizes, certificates, and book rewards. These programmes encourage whole-school involvement in environmental action, promoting leadership, teamwork, and real-world impact. Schools can also use Wastebuster's tools to track and share progress, helping to enhance Ofsted inspections and school reports with evidence of sustainability efforts.

Key Benefits

- **Student Engagement:** Fun, structured challenges that encourage sustainable action.
- **Recognition and Rewards:** Certificates, prizes, and national recognition for participation.
- **Whole-School Impact:** Supports curriculum goals while promoting environmental responsibility.
- **Ofsted and DfE Alignment:** Demonstrates student leadership, personal development, and sustainability action.

Quick Start Steps

- **Primary Schools:** Join the **Planet Protector Challenge** to engage pupils in waste prevention, recycling, and conservation activities.
- **All Schools:** Take part in **Recycle to Read** to earn book rewards for recycling efforts.

Core Features and Tools

- Tailored primary and secondary activities, including the **Planet Protector Challenge** to help primary schools prevent and recycle waste, conserve energy and water, encourage sustainable transport, and boost biodiversity.
- National campaigns including **Recycle to Read** on our campaign platform, **The Pod**.
- **Interactive tracking tools** to measure sustainability impact.

Best Practices and Tips

- Integrate activities into lessons to maximise learning outcomes and engagement.
- Encourage student leadership by forming eco-teams to take charge of projects.
- Promote school-wide participation by linking activities to **national campaigns**.
- Use your **impact data** to showcase sustainability efforts in Ofsted inspections and school reports.

Measuring Success

- Track school participation through **Wastebuster's online reporting tools**.
- **Monitor impact metrics**, including waste reduction, carbon savings, and student engagement.
- Celebrate achievements by showcasing success stories within the school and local community.

FAQs

- ***How do we sign up for the West Sussex Wastebuster programmes that offer rewards and recognition?*** Sign your school up for the **Planet Protector Challenge** (Primary) on the website **planetprotectorchallenge.org** and visit our national campaigns platform, **The Pod**, to register for our **national campaigns**, such as **Recycle to Read**.
- ***What types of rewards and recognition are available with Wastebuster?*** There is a range of great rewards and recognition available for participating in Wastebuster programmes, such as the **West Sussex Planet Protector Challenge**, as well as **Wastebuster national campaigns**, such as Waste Week, Switch Off Fortnight and Recycle to Read. Rewards range from funding to resources, such as books and exclusive opportunities. Wastebuster also issues certificates of achievement, including the Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Green Ambassador Awards for the Planet Protector Challenge. Ambassadors can double any recycling rewards earned if they are one of the first 3 schools each academic year to reach Ambassador status for completing all missions. We recommend checking the rewards and recognition available across all programmes, as they change annually.

Additional Support and Contact Information

- Contact us: **info@wastebuster.co.uk**
- Website: **wastebuster.co.uk/west-sussex**