



Quick Guide 1: Welcome to the Cheshire West Recycling Wastebuster Programme

This guide is suitable for Headteachers, Senior Leadership Team, Governors, Sustainability Leads, PTA members and any school staff with an interest in the environment, in all state-funded primary and secondary schools in Cheshire West.

Purpose

This guide introduces the Wastebuster programme's goals, benefits, and structure, while also highlighting its alignment with the Department for Education (DfE) Climate Strategy, Ofsted's broader inspection criteria on leadership, personal development, and curriculum enrichment, and resource efficiency initiatives.

What is the Wastebuster Programme?

Cheshire West and Chester Schools Waste Action Programme is provided free of charge to Cheshire West schools by Cheshire West Recycling. The programme is designed to support schools in engaging whole school communities in environmental action, providing guidance and tools to reduce environmental impact, unlocking savings through efficiency measures, and measuring the difference this makes.

The programme is structured to help schools develop and deliver a climate action plan, offering a framework and an annual cycle of activities throughout the school year. It includes teacher training, assemblies, student sessions, and an account to plan and track progress. The programme also provides ready-made, high-quality resources to support delivery, with rewards and recognition to celebrate achievements.

Key Benefits

- ✓ **Engage Students:** Over 1,000 curriculum-aligned resources inspire your students to take part in missions and enterprise award challenges.
- ✓ **Save Resources:** Reduce energy and water consumption, waste, sustainable transport and biodiversity.
- ✓ **Raise Funds:** Earn rewards through recycling and sustainability initiatives.
- ✓ **Promote Sustainability:** Support eco-teams, environmental education, and local biodiversity efforts.
- ✓ **Supports Ofsted's Inspection Criteria:** Helps schools address key Ofsted curriculum and community engagement targets by providing structured eco-projects and opportunities for student leadership.
- ✓ **Exclusive Opportunities:** Participate in national campaigns and win prizes, including books and other rewards.
- ✓ **Integrated Approach:** Enables schools to streamline all sustainability, resource efficiency, and environmental education activities in one centralised platform.



Quick Start Steps

- As a state-funded school in Cheshire West, you automatically have a free account with Wastebuster. For a password reminder, please contact us at info@wastebuster.co.uk.
- [Login](#) to our [Wastebuster site \(Wastebuster.co.uk\)](#) to visit your [Cheshire West homepage](#) for localised information and guidance.
- Start implementing the [Climate Action Planning framework](#) or engage in campaigns like [Switch Off Fortnight](#).

Core Features and Tools

- [Curriculum-aligned resources](#) for science, geography, and PSHE, providing real-world sustainability education that aligns with DfE curriculum goals.
- [Climate Action Planning framework](#) for creating and monitoring tailored school sustainability strategies.
- Tools to [track progress](#) on energy, waste, water, and carbon savings, supporting schools to meet both DfE sustainability objectives and Ofsted's broader inspection criteria on leadership, personal development, and curriculum enrichment.
- Wastebuster connects schools with other companies, community groups, and national campaigns, providing a cohesive approach to sustainability education and resource efficiency.

Best Practices and Tips

- Empower student eco-teams to lead activities that demonstrate measurable environmental impact.
- Engage your whole school community in positive environmental actions that promote responsible consumption and care for the environment.
- Use the programme to support your climate action strategy and curriculum integration as part of a supported school improvement cycle.
- Gain accreditation, rewards and recognition easily to motivate your whole school community to work towards the targets as a joint effort and celebrate achievement.
- Use [tracking reports](#) to showcase achievements during Ofsted inspections.

Measuring Success

- Track your school's environmental savings and achievements using Wastebuster's tools and reports.
- Use your Wastebuster School Account as an eco-bank and track your financial savings and rewards, and download statements and plans to stay on track with your climate action activities and how they correlate with savings and rewards.
- Use campaign participation data and impact charts to demonstrate ongoing progress.



FAQs

- ***How do I register my school?***

As a state-funded school in Cheshire West, you will have been assigned a free account with Wastebuster. For a password reminder, please contact us at info@wastebuster.co.uk.

- ***Do staff members need a different password?***

No, you can share the password for your school, as the Wastebuster Account dashboard tracks school-wide environmental data.

- ***How do we register to take part in Cheshire West Recycling Wastebuster programmes or Wastebuster campaigns?***

If you would like to register for Wastebuster's national campaigns (Waste Week, Water Week, Switch Off Fortnight, Recycle to Read or What's Under Your Feet), sign up for a free account on The Pod and register for the campaign/s you would like to take part in. You will then be able to access all the associated free resources for each programme or campaign.

- ***What resources are available to support our Climate Action Planning?***

Our ready-to-use [Climate Action Plan tool](#) helps schools plan, track, report, and reduce environmental impact.

- ***Is training available to use the Wastebuster Account and programme?***

Yes, Wastebuster offer a range of training opportunities for staff and will also deliver assemblies and student sessions to support student engagement. Contact us for more information.

Additional Support and Contact Information

- Contact us: info@wastebuster.co.uk
- Cheshire West Wastebusters Website: wastebuster.co.uk/cheshirewestrecycling
- For a login reminder for your account, please email us at info@wastebuster.co.uk.