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GREEN FLAG PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Use this list to assess your progress towards the International Green Flag Award.
90 / 100 points overall are required to qualify and at least a 70% achievement in each step. The assessor holds the right to award additional points for exceptional performance (5% per step).

Step 1 = 5 points
Step 2 = 15 points
Step 3 = 20 points
Step 4 = 30 points
Step 5 = 20 points
Step 6 = 5 points
Step 7 = 5 points

STEP 1: ECO COMMITTEE (5 points)

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (5)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
1.	Students are the driving force of the Eco Committee.		1 points: 50% students 0.5 points: 40–50% students 0 points: less than 40% students	Connect with the local government, school management, parents and local volunteers.	List of Eco Committee members.
2.	Eco-Committee continuation. Eco Committee members remain on the committee onto the end of the school year to ensure continuity.		0.5 points: 35% of members continue 0.25 points: 34% to 20% of members continue 0 points: no member continues	Create a Handover Document, including information on the Sustainability Audit, the rationale of the Action Plan, Monitoring and the Eco Code.	Handover document. List of Eco Committee members from the first year and list of those joined in the second year pledging their participation.
3.	The Eco Committee meets regularly.		1 points: 8 meetings or more in the school year 0.5 points: 6 to 7 meetings in a school year 0 points: 5 or less meetings in a school year	Don't wait longer than 4–6 weeks for your next meeting. Meet up, even if it is a short briefing. Spread your meetings	Committee minutes for 3 meetings.

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				throughout the school year!	
4.	The Eco Committee minutes are recorded. Key decisions taken are documented and submitted with the Green Flag application.		<p>0.5 points: all key decisions documented in the form of minutes</p> <p>0.25 points: minutes of half the meetings are recorded.</p> <p>0 points: no minutes are recorded.</p>	Template available!	Committee minutes for 3 meetings.
5.	Sustainable participation in the Committee. The number of students on the Eco Committee is sufficient and efficient.		<p>0.5 points: min. 6, max. 18</p> <p>0.25 points: min. 5, max. 20</p> <p>0 points: less than 6, more than 20</p>	At least 1 student per year group. The maximum number is defined to ensure efficiency during committee meetings. Note that if your committee is large, you can split the group in sub-committees of 5–20 members.	List of Eco Committee members.
6.	Eco Committee meetings are chaired by students. *Will be evaluated according to school level: A. Pre-kinder to 2nd grade B. 3rd to 12th grade		<p>A. Pre-kinderto 2nd grade:</p> <p>0.5 points: a student always co-chairs the meetings</p> <p>0 points: a student never co-chairs the meetings</p>	This facilitates the development of leadership skills.	List of Eco Committee members.
			<p>B. 3rd to 12th grade:</p> <p>0.5 points: a student always chairs the meetings</p> <p>0.25 points: a student always co-chairs the meetings</p> <p>0 points: a student never chairs or co-chairs the meetings</p>		
7.	The Eco Committee is visible.		<p>0.5 points: Names are publicised in the school noticeboard/website/social media/etc.</p> <p>0 points: Names are not publicised</p>	This ensures that all students in the school know who to reach out to and who to consult about sustainability issues.	Evidence of visibility (photos of noticeboards, screenshots of website/social media posts, etc.)

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8.	The Eco Committee is elected or nominated by students.		<p>0.5 points: the committee is elected</p> <p>0.25 points: the committee is nominated by students</p> <p>0 points: the committee is not elected or nominated, it is, e.g. selected by teachers/ other stakeholders</p>	<p>This is democracy in action!</p> <p>Note that the sign-up process is considered as self-nomination.</p>	A summary of the process of election or nomination and the results.
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STEP 2: SUSTAINABILITY AUDIT

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (15)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
9.	Baselines and end lines are established.		<p>4 points: Benchmarking against best practice examples or national or municipal standards</p> <p>2 points: Baselines are established</p> <p>0 points: no benchmarking or baselines</p>	<p>Identify your baseline it can be a report, previous evaluation, bill, or other.</p> <p>Compare this to your data.</p> <p>Template available!</p>	List of metrics/ baselines collected on all Main Themes.
10.	The audit is reviewed regularly.		<p>1 points: once a year (initial and final audit)</p> <p>0.5 points: just completed the initial audit</p> <p>0 points: no audit was completed</p>	<p>Regular review – preferably in the beginning of the year – will allow you to revisit your targets and see where action is still lacking. Also important when bringing new people on board!</p>	Updated list of metrics collected.

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11.	Student leadership in the Sustainability Audit.		<p>2 points: Students take charge of the audit</p> <p>1 points: Students have only taken up minor tasks and not responsibility</p> <p>0 points: Students have taken no responsibility</p>	Delegating is an art! Students can delegate tasks to other stakeholders.	Photos of students carrying out the Sustainability Audit. Data reports/sheets.
12.	Distribution of tasks across age groups, stakeholders and curriculum areas.		<p>3 points: All year groups and stakeholders actively participate in the audit with performing at least one task each.</p> <p>1.5 points: Some year groups and some stakeholders participate in the audit</p> <p>0 points: Less than half the year groups and no stakeholders participate in the audit</p>	Stakeholders are the school management, administration, the school canteen, teaching staff, parents	List of tasks distributed to different stakeholders.
13.	Measurement indicators and methods are determined.		<p>1 points: Units of measurement and performance indicators are defined and methods for measurement are explained with detail.</p> <p>0.5 points: Units of measurements are clear but measurement methods are lacking.</p> <p>0 points: Units or performance indicators do not accurately reflect what is being measured.</p>	Getting clarity and agreement on the metrics is crucial.	List of measurement units, performance indicators and measurement methods as part of the Sustainability Audit report!
14.	The Sustainability Audit is broader than just environmental performance and includes literacy – behaviour and knowledge.		<p>4 points: All themes are audited +current attitudes or behaviours are recorded through e.g. surveys</p> <p>2 points: All main and cross cutting themes are audited</p> <p>0 points: Not all main and cross cutting themes are audited</p>	You could also consider a teacher survey on skills / perception on leadership development.	Copies of the Sustainability Audit filled in templates.

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STEP 3: LINK TO THE CURRICULUM

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (20)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
15.	Carrying out a curriculum audit and integrating the action plan themes.		6 points: Action Plan themes integrated at all grade levels and across disciplines 3 points: Action Plan themes integrated to some extent across disciplines 0 points: No curricular integration	The curriculum audit will help identify which subjects already include references to the sustainability themes chosen. Template available!	A document that lists all the areas audited and which ones have adopted activities or themes related to the Eco-Schools Action Plan.
16.	Achieving key competencies for sustainability.		4 points: 6 or more out of 8 UNESCO Key Competencies for Sustainability 2 points: 4 out of 8 UNESCO Key Competencies for Sustainability 0 points: less than 4 out of 8 competencies are achieved	Check the list below!	A report/list of competencies achieved and how.
17.	Teaching staff participate in Education for Sustainable Development training.		4 points: 50% of teachers have participated in ESD professional development opportunities 2 points: 20% of teachers have participated in such opportunities 0 points: less than 20% of teachers have participated in such opportunities	Find some wonderful courses on the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) website: https://naaee.org/eepro/learning	Evidence of participation (certificate copies, photos, etc.).

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18.	The data collected from the Sustainability Audit are used in class.		<p>3 points: Data from 5 theme audits are used in class</p> <p>1.5 points: Data from 4 theme audits are used in class</p> <p>0 points: Data from 3 or less theme audits are used in class</p>		Teacher or student presentations, etc.
19.	Sustainability is embedded in school events / conferences / learning opportunities.		<p>2 points: Sustainability rules are established for all school events</p> <p>1 points: Waste management takes place at school events</p> <p>0 points: No sustainability rules are established for school events</p>	<p>Find this guide for more sustainable events to help you get started. You are also welcome to adopt it!</p> <p>https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Primary-Plastic-Alternates.pdf</p>	Evidence of development and implementation of sustainability rules for school events. Copy of the 'rulebook' or photos.
20.	Active Learning Pedagogies are promoted		<p>1 points: Lesson plans indicate active learning pedagogies</p> <p>0 points: Lesson plans do not indicate active learning pedagogies.</p>		Activities can be built around any theme for children to build their knowledge instead of getting information

STEP 4: ACTION PLAN

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (30)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
21.	Action Plan is SMART.		<p>10 points: The Action Plan contains clear long and short-term measurable objectives and targets for at least 3 themes.</p> <p>0 points: The Action Plan contains no measurable objectives or targets</p>	Remember that in addressing your 3 themes, the cross-cutting themes need to be addressed too. Template available!	Action Plan template provided by Eco-Schools global filled in with as much detail as possible.

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				What is a SMART Action Plan? Check in the Eco-Schools Handbook!	
22.	Action Plan indicates areas of action for environmental, social, economic and cultural elements of sustainability.		5 points: At least 4 quantifiable actions per theme 2.5 points: At least 3 quantifiable actions per theme 0 points: Less than 2 quantifiable actions per theme	If you cannot identify a quantifiable action, look at proxies –they count!	Action Plan template filled in.
23.	Distribution of tasks with student engagement.		5 points: Students are involved with at least 75% of the activities 2.5 points: Students are involved with at least half (50%) of the activities 0 points: Students are responsible for less than half the activities	Look at distribution across age groups and beyond the Eco-Committee.	Action Plan template filled in.
24.	The Action Plan should be publicly available.		2 points: on 3 different platforms 1 points: on the school noticeboard 0 points: the Action Plan is not prominently displayed	Some platforms are: the website, social media, school noticeboard, class noticeboards, etc.	Evidence of visibility (photos of noticeboards, screenshots of website/social media posts, etc.)
25.	The Action Plan includes a communication strategy –outputs and outcomes.		2 points: A clear communication strategy is included in the Action Plan 1 points: Some effort has been to create a communications strategy 0 points: no communication strategy	Plan how you share the key outcomes from meetings, how to disseminate the Action Plan, Monitoring, the Eco Code, how you handle social media, newsletters–magazines, etc.	Action Plan template filled in.

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26.	The Action Plan is continuously updated.		1 points: The Action Plan is updated once a year 0 points: The Action Plan is not updated	Look at your monitoring and evaluation! Does your Action Plan need adjustments?	List of updated points or first and updated version of the Action Plan.
27.	Map out the areas to be improved on campus.		1 points: A visual map showcased on campus 0.5 points: a list of areas to improve is drawn 0 points: no references to campus areas to be improved		Evidence of visibility of the map or list.
28.	Whole school approach in Action Plan activities.		4 points: The whole school is involved in 3 to 5 Action Plan activities 1.5 points: The whole school is involved in 1 or 2 Action Plan activities 0 points: Not enough evidence of a whole school approach		Photos, testimonies, etc.

STEP 5: MONITORING & EVALUATION

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (20)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
29.	Student involvement in monitoring and evaluation.		5 points: Students or specific classes undertake monitoring and evaluation in collaboration with teaching staff and/or the school management. 2 points: Mainly staff and management undertake monitoring and evaluation with only minor help from students 0 points: Only staff and management undertake monitoring and evaluation	Involve teaching and school staff to get all the information you need.	Task allocation list, photos of students carrying out monitoring and evaluation, student presentations, etc.

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30.	There is a clear comparison to Sustainability Audit measurements.		<p>5 points: There is a clear comparison to sustainability audit units and clear progress charts and other illustrations are present</p> <p>2.5 points: Measurement indicators in Sustainability Audit and Monitoring and Evaluation are in different units or have unclear progress indicators</p> <p>0 points: The action plan does not include info on how each activity will be monitored and evaluated and only management is involved</p>	Create a monitoring tool – fill in the values at least every quarter.	Charts, records, metrics before and after, survey results, photos, etc.
31.	Targets are achieved or illustrate positive progress.		<p>5 points: Progress is illustrated in all targets</p> <p>2.5 points: Progress is illustrated in at least 2/3 of the targets</p> <p>0 points: Progress is illustrated in less than 2/3 of the targets</p>	Use the Eco Committee meetings to review and revise your targets if you have to!	Before and after charts, evidence of progress.
32.	The findings from the Monitoring & Evaluation are displayed in the school and communicated to the school and community members.		<p>2 points: The latest progress or results are publicised on campus website/social media</p> <p>0 points: The latest progress or results are not publicised</p>	Sharing and celebrating success with all improves engagement 😊	Photos, screenshots, snippets, etc.
33.	Assessments capture the progress on Environmental literacy		<p>3 points: Assessments monitors the progress of environmental literacy</p> <p>0 points</p>	What is monitored is done and students do better when they know what is expected!	Assessment sheets and students awareness of the learning expectations

STEP 6: INFORM & INVOLVE

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (5)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
34.	The student population participates in Eco-Schools events and activities (e.g. Action Days, Theme Days, etc.).		1.5 points: At least 70% of the student population 0.75 points: At least 50% of the student population 0 points: Under 50% of the student population	Talk about Eco-Schools at every opportunity!	Photos, registers, etc.
35.	Raising awareness on the Eco-Schools programme.		1 points: Dedicated Eco-Schools noticeboard, Eco-Schools webpage and/or social media 0.5 points: Dedicated Eco-Schools noticeboard 0 points: No information about Eco-Schools is publicly available	The noticeboard can be physical or online. You can also create a dedicated space in the school annual report, or regular magazine/newsletter. Share the Eco Code, Action Plan, Monitoring results on the school website!	Photos or screenshots as evidence.
36.	The school has created sufficient links with the wider community through its Eco-Schools programme.		1 points: Community member involvement in at least 3 occasions 0.5 points: Community member involvement in at least 1 occasion 0 points: No community involvement	Community members can be local council officers, members of local businesses, environmental organisations, other volunteers, neighbouring schools and neighbouring communities, etc.	Testimonies, photos, etc.
37.	The school shares its work with the Eco-Schools network.		0.5 points: At least 2 stories featured in any medium 0.25 points: At least 1 story featured in any medium 0 points: No stories are featured	Mediums can be the school website, magazine, a local newspaper, or the Eco-Schools website! You can	Full articles, screenshots, photos, etc.

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				submit your stories through this link: https://podio.com/webforms/21728820/1514784	
38.	The school is active on social media platforms to ensure online visibility.		0.5 points: 4 or more social media posts per year 0.25 points: 1–3social media posts per year 0 points: No social media engagement	Get inspired from the Eco-Schools Global page and its worldwide network! Facebook: www.facebook.com/ecoschools.global Instagram: @ecoschoolsint	Screenshots of social media posts and the profile account.
39.	The actions are carried out at home.		0.5 points: Testimonies from students or parents that actions take place at home 0 points: No testimonies	Involve the parents through e.g. the Parents Association.	Reports of changes at home / Testimonies from students or parents.

STEP7: ECO CODE

No.	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	POINTS	SCORING SYSTEM (5)	TIPS	DOCUMENTATION
40.	The Eco Code reflects the school's Action Plan.		2 points: The Eco Code reflects the values the school aspires to and is a statement of the school culture. It reflects on themes addressed 1 points: Reflects on the themes addressed 0 points: Is unrelated to the school ethos	The Eco Code is your mission statement. It should show – in a positive, clear and imaginative way – your school's commitment to sustainable development.	Copy of the Eco Code.

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			or the themes addressed		
41.	The Eco Code is prominently displayed.		<p>1.5 points: Displayed on the school notice board, in all classrooms, other noticeboards, website, social media, etc.</p> <p>0.75 points: Displayed on the school noticeboard</p> <p>0 points: Not displayed</p>	Put the Eco Code in a prominent space on your school website and social media! Let everyone know about it!	Evidence of publicity, e.g. photos, screenshots, etc.
42.	When writing the Eco Code, the Eco Committee seeks suggestions from the whole school community.		<p>1 points: Contributions from all stakeholders, i.e. all year groups, school management, teaching staff, parents</p> <p>0.5 points: Contributions from most stakeholders</p>	Some schools run competitions to write up the Eco Code, others collect suggestions from different stakeholders!	Testimonies from stakeholders.
43.	The Eco Code is updated regularly.		<p>0.5 points: once a year</p> <p>0.25: once every 2 years</p> <p>0 points: less often than 2 years</p>		Record of Eco Committee meeting when the Eco Code was updated.