



11-14 Teachers' notes

11-14 Teachers' notes

Make a school event more sustainable and win £1,500!

About the GetGreenGo™ competition and British Standards

We've created this competition to mark the launch of the new British Standard for Sustainable Events Management, BS 8901 – the world's first standard for sustainable events management.

BSI is the 'National Standards Body' of the UK. Our standards help businesses and other organizations to make safe decisions, build on best practice, and maintain quality.

We also help organizations to become more sustainable, for example by recycling more efficiently and handling waste in safe and responsible ways.

The new British Standard, BS 8901, is designed to help the events industry to become more sustainable. It challenges the industry to use resources more wisely, in order to preserve them for the future.

How your school can benefit

Sustainability is already high on the school agenda from its inclusion across the curriculum, to whole-school issues of procurement, capital investment, grounds management and transport.

This competition offers you a novel way to deliver the subject. It's an approach that allows students to take a hands-on role and engage with teachers, their peers and their local community.

We've based the competition around the principles of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), some of the opportunities for ESD in your curriculum, and importantly, the National Sustainable Schools Framework, and the '8 doorways to sustainability' that it uses. Taking part won't just help your students to learn. It will also help you make real steps towards making your school more sustainable.

To find out more you can visit the DCSF National Framework website:

www.teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools/framework/

Entering the competition could also raise the profile of your school within your community. We have provided a template Press Release for schools to use in order to promote their GetGreenGo™ sustainable event within their communities. Please visit the Media Page www.bsieducation.org/Education/GetGreenGo/Media for more details.

Students will learn more about the issues that confront us all and the practical steps they can take. They'll put important interpersonal and problem-solving skills to work, developing skills in Enterprise and Active Citizenship that are important for learning and the workplace. Most importantly, their entry will have real, positive effects in your school, community and the wider world.

You may think that students can have a limited effect, but with over 30,000 schools in the UK, their actions, when combined with those of other schools, will soon add up...

...and your team could win £250, £750, or even £1,500 for your school!

Age groups and entry

The competition is open to teams of mixed aged from 7-19. Your club can enter more than one team. Teams can be of mixed age or year group, as long as all team members fall within the same age group for entry.

Choose at least one issue

Teams must choose at least one sustainability issue to address, and use the entry form to tell us what they did. Please note that students don't have to focus on all the ideas we've included under each issue - these are there to kick-start their ideas!

A small team can enter by focusing on just one issue, or a larger team can work in smaller groups to address more than one.

It's up to you!

Teams do not have to organize the whole event. Their entry should focus on the team's efforts to make their chosen event more sustainable.

Judging criteria

A panel of judges from BSI, Industry experts and Government will assess each entry. Entries will be judged according to:

1. The quality of the team's actions and how they measured their success
2. How well the team reflected on, and learned from taking part
3. How the team worked with others and shared their ideas
4. How the team's work has influenced the school to support sustainable events in the future.

No distinction will be made between teams that enter through the different routes described below, through another route of your own choice, or between teams that address more than one issue.

We will not judge teams on specific outcomes, for example kilogrammes of carbon saved, but on their general success in promoting and delivering a sustainable school event. This ensures that the competition does not discriminate against smaller schools, where absolute savings may be lower. However, a team's demonstration of how they were able to measure and calculate for example, carbon savings or food miles, can contribute to a strong entry.

The full [Terms and Conditions and Rules of Entry](#) are available on the competition website. Please read these carefully before sending in your entry.

Some ideas on how to enter

The student guide provides a **PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT!** framework for entering the competition. This framework offers a flexible approach for students to use as they enter the competition.

We don't mind how students work to complete their entry, but we've thought of some ways that you can integrate their entry into your lessons. For example, you could enter:

- Within a **specific subject**, to support sustainability in the curriculum
- As a **cross-curricular project**, for example to explore sustainability or to develop personal, learning and thinking skills
- As an **extracurricular project** connected to a whole-school or community issue.

...but there's no need to be limited by these ideas – choose a way that suits you and your students.

You can access the student guide from the Teachers' landing page on the website.

Entering through a curriculum subject

Teams can enter the competition as part of your curriculum work. We've designed it to be as flexible as possible to suit how you'd like to approach the topic with your students. You can explore the issues as part of your lessons, and teams can plan their entry as a homework or self-study exercise.

Here are some topic ideas – we're sure you'll be able to think of more!

Science/Environmental Studies

- Energy and resources: impact of fuel and resource use; carbon footprints; efficiency; decision-making
- Environment: human impact on the environment; climate change; economic factors; production and waste
- Science and society: environmental, economic and social factors, renewable and non-renewable resources; impacts of farming systems.

Maths

- Data collection and handling: identifying data needs; formulating questions or data gathering; data processing and manipulation; interpretation and discussion (data might include greenhouse gas emissions, travel, money in the local economy, waste and recycling, energy and water use etc.)

Geography

- People and the environment: impacts of food, water and energy use on local and other environments
- People and places: quality of life; impacts on urban and rural places; transport; influences on decisions driving urban-rural interactions
- Economic development: building local economies; social and environmental impacts of economic activity.

Design & Technology

- Product and packaging design: social factors and influences; impacts of designs, materials and processes on the environment and society
- Manufacturing: social and environmental impacts; resource efficiency, waste and recycling; ethics.

Enterprise

- Aims and impacts of business: environmental, societal and economic aspects; views and actions of stakeholders; role of business in the community; responsibilities and ethics in business.

Citizenship / PSHE / PSE / PSD

- Economy: how local economies function; how they are influenced
- Society: how government, individuals, groups and organizations can contribute to change in society
- Media: the role and impact of the media on the environment, economies and society
- You: acting sustainably within the contexts of confident and responsible behaviour, a healthy and safer lifestyle, and developing positive relationships with peers and adults.

For detailed links visit the Sustainable Schools Teaching and Learning website:
www.teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools/teaching/

Remember: in order to meet the entry criteria, teams may have to complete additional work beyond the topics covered in a single subject.

Entering as a cross-curricular project

Where your timetable allows, teams can enter as a cross-curricular project. For example, a team could address one issue through Science (such as greenhouse gas emissions), another through Maths (data gathering on waste and recycling) and another through Business Studies or an Enterprise activity (local food production for a stall).

Teams could also use their entry as a platform to develop their Key Skills or as a way to explore important Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills (PLTS).

Entering as an extracurricular project

You may find it easiest for teams to enter as an extra-curricular project, where students work entirely in their own time. You could enter through:

- A project for school council members or prefects, where they can engage with teachers and governors to research and carry out their plans
- An after-school club activity, where teams could compete against each other
- A peer-led learning project, where older students can lead their younger peers through the entry process (all students in a team should be within the same age group for entry)
- An enterprise project, where a team could approach each issue as a small business opportunity.

These are just ideas – you can use any approach that allows teams to meet the entry criteria.

Using the student guide and entry form

The student guide is a practical tool for taking action, and completing the entry form. Review it with each team so that they are clear on what to do. You can access the student guide from the Teachers' landing page on the website.

The first half of the guide is a very brief overview of the sustainability issues from which teams can select. There are four issues: **Food & Drink**, **Purchasing & Waste**, **Energy & Water**, and **Travel & Traffic**. To enter, students will also need to address how they will 'spread the word' to other people, but this is not an issue that they can choose in its own right.

The overview for each issue includes a range of highlighted key words. Students can use these as search terms on the Internet, or as the focus for research in your Library or with local voluntary groups. We've deliberately avoided putting too much information in the guide. We hope that taking part will inspire students to find out more themselves.

Remember, students don't have to follow up every idea we've included!

The second half of the guide shows four steps that each team should complete: **PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT!**

Four steps to a sustainable event explains exactly what students need to do at each stage. This will ensure that they can provide the right information for their competition entry. These steps shouldn't limit what students choose to do – they can make their research, planning, delivery and reflection as broad as they wish, or are able.

We have provided some **Hints, tips and links**. These point students in the right direction, and offer ideas that will make their efforts more successful.

The links provide more detailed explorations of each issue, and also offer practical tools that students can use, for example carbon calculators and sources of local food. Again, these are just a start – what else can your teams discover?

Evidence to support your entry

Each team should provide photos or video footage to support their entry - with either hard copies or by uploading through our online entry form. The photos should show clearly what students did, the responses from visitors to the event, or the outcomes. For example, if you decided to try to reduce the amount of packaging wasted during an event, the photo could demonstrate the amount of rubbish bags counted out at the end of the event. Your teams should submit up to five photos for each issue they tackle, or a video (on DVD or by uploading to the website) that's up to three minutes long.

Send us your entries

You can enter using our online entry form by following the step-by-step instructions on the entry page on the website.

You can also enter with a hard copy entry - please remember to sign each team's completed form and send it with your team's photos or video to:
GetGreenGo, BSI Education, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL

All entries must be received by **Friday, 17th July 2009**.

How to help your students

Each team's entry should reflect its own efforts and success. However, students can only succeed with the help of others. This might be people who can offer specific advice, guidance or help, or it might be the visitors that the team asks to act more sustainably.

Here are some simple ways you can help each team:

- Identify a suitable event, that offers a suitable platform for students' involvement and action and which will allow the team's entry to arrive before the competition deadline of **Friday, 17th July 2009**.
- Make sure the team follows the **PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT!** framework as they work towards their entry – this is important to complete the form.
- Get your PTA on board – it's likely that they'll be involved in any school event, and they could offer vital support for your team's efforts.
- Guide the team on what can and cannot be achieved in the context of your school event.
- Encourage the team to follow the **Hints and tips** in the student guide
- Support them if they contact external organizations for advice and help, for example local or national sustainability groups or local suppliers of food or materials.
- Comment on their ideas, from your perspective as a stakeholder in the success of the event.
- Be a champion: encourage staff, other students and parents to support the team's work and respond to their encouragement to act more sustainably
- Help the team adhere to Health & Safety regulations, for example if food preparation is involved.
- Make sure the team completes each section of the entry form
- Ensure that you add your comments on the team's success at the bottom of the entry form.
- Please make sure that the team supports the entry with up to five photographs for each issue they address, or a video in the correct format (please check the 'Rules of Entry' page on the GetGreenGo! website for further details).
- Register your team on the competition home page to get free advice from the BSI PLUS, a free monthly newsletter!
- Get inspired by reading **case studies** of 4 winning teams in 2008.
- Check out the **Footprint Friends** website for examples of how young people have inspired communities to take action to control their carbon footprint.

BSI Education

BSI Group Headquarters
389 Chiswick High Road
London W4 4AL

Telephone: +44 (0)20 8996 7534
Email: education.info@bsigroup.com

www.bsieducation.org



raising standards worldwide™

