



Most young people care deeply about environmental issues. They can learn about these issues in the classroom as well as through the media. They want to help but knowing what to do and how to do it is not always easy. *Green-Schools could be the answer.*

If we are to have a good environment in the future we must all make changes in our lifestyles. Those changes will take place as we make choices about how we travel, buy things, dispose of our waste and manage where we live, work and relax.

FEE – The Foundation for Environmental Education, aims to promote and encourage these lifestyle changes.

Green-Schools, part of the international Eco-Schools network, is the ideal mechanism to do this in schools. It builds on the natural enthusiasm of children for environmental issues, developing a mature and responsible attitude to the environment and a commitment to practical action.

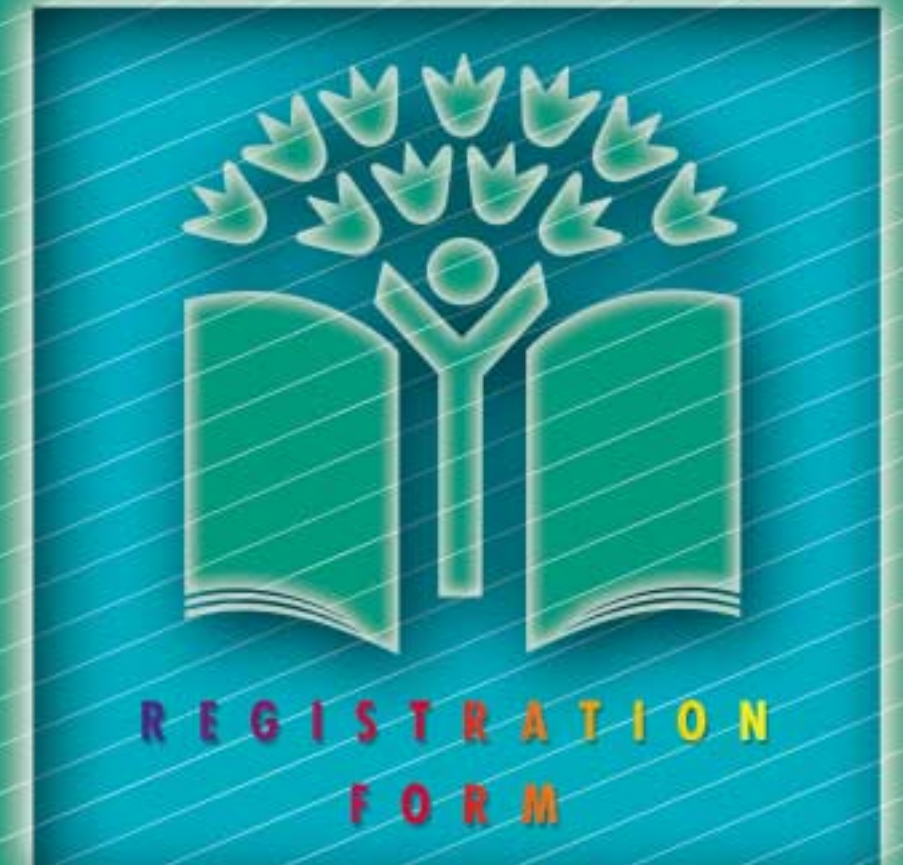
Mr. Jan Eriksen

President, FEE – The Foundation for Environmental Education



Green-Schools

Towards a sustainable lifestyle



The seven steps of *Green-Schools*

1 A GREEN-SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

This directs the school's involvement in the project. Ideally, the committee includes pupils, teachers, non-teaching staff, management and parents.

2 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

A process of examining the school's environmental impacts in order to identify targets for action and improvement.

3 ACTION PLAN

This gives specific and achievable targets with proposed completion dates that will show real success.

4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This will ensure that progress towards targets is checked, amendments made where necessary and success celebrated.

5 CURRICULUM WORK

Curriculum materials are provided that give ideas on how to integrate environmental issues into lessons. *Litter and Waste* is the curriculum theme in the first year. In subsequent years you can study energy, water and other environmental issues.

6 INFORMING AND INVOLVING

A publicity programme keeps the school and wider community involved and informed through displays, assemblies and press coverage. *A Day of Action* involves the whole school and wider community in meeting your targets.

7 GREEN CODE

This is a statement of the school's commitment to environmental good habits.

Schools that establish all seven elements and achieve recorded improvements in their environment can apply for a *Green-Schools* Award. This prestigious award comes in the form of a Green Flag to display inside or outside your school. Successful schools will also receive a certificate and a *Green-Schools* logo to use on their headed paper or on other publicity material. The award must be renewed every two years.

What is *Green-Schools* ?



Green-Schools

Green-Schools is an International project designed to encourage and acknowledge whole school action for the environment. *Green-Schools* offers a well-defined controllable way for you to take environmental issues from the curriculum and apply them to the day-to-day running of your school. This process will help your pupils recognise the importance of environmental issues and take them more seriously in their personal and home lives. *Green-Schools* is both a programme and an award scheme. The programme can be adopted by any school using the guidelines given in the Handbook. The award will be given to schools that complete the seven steps of the programme.

THE BENEFITS TO YOUR SCHOOL

The *Green-Schools* award scheme can help schools to:

- improve the school environment
- reduce litter and waste
- reduce fuel bills
- increase environmental awareness
- involve the local community
- gain local publicity
- create links with other schools in Ireland and Internationally

Green-Schools is run in co-operation with Local Authorities throughout Ireland. The programme is managed by An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland.

The idea was developed by FEE – The Foundation for Environmental Education.

To register your school and receive your free *Green-Schools* pack please fill in the following Registration Form. If you require further information please contact the *Green-Schools* team at the following address:

Green-Schools Office
Environmental Education Unit
An Taisce
Unit 5A, Swift's Alley
Francis Street
Dublin 8

Telephone 01 4002222
Fax: 01 4002285
Email: greenschools@antaisce.org
Website: www.greenschoolsireland.org

When you have decided to take part in *Green-Schools* please fill in and return this form to register. Please print clearly.



Full name of school

Address

County

Telephone Fax

Email

No. of pupils in school No. of teachers in school

Please tick: Primary Secondary Special

Name of your Local Authority

We would like to register our school for the *Green-Schools* Award Scheme

Principal: Name

Signature

Green-Schools Co-ordinator: Name

Signature



AN TAISCE *The National Trust for Ireland*

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