

Environmental School Project 2021-2022

Creating a better life for the many people and the local community



Environmental School Project –

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Stone Hill School - Application

1. Please name and describe your school:

Stone Hill School is a LA maintained Special School in Doncaster for children aged between 5 and 16. All pupils have a full EHCP and most have moderate learning difficulties as their primary need, many with communication difficulties such as autism. We are a Green Flag Eco-School are very passionate about environmental matters and 'green' learning is a common theme across all curriculum areas.

2. Please give contact details of the school and project leader:

Rebecca Lea – Lower School Lead and Eco School Coordinator
01302 800090
rlea@stonehillsch.co.uk

3. Name of the Project:
Animal Homes and Shelters



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4. Please name your focus area: Biodiversity, transport reduction, energy reduction, water saving, waste reduction, food saving or other?

Our project will focus on biodiversity. Our project will help us to show positive attitudes and values for the health and well-being of local habitats, plants and animals, as well as humans. It will encourage us to use the outdoors to teach and learn about biodiversity. We will be making choices that affect the use of natural resources and will aim to reduce our global footprint on habitats and species, both locally and globally.

5. Please describe the proposed project and how it leads with the environment and/or sustainability. Does it look to reduce energy consumption or increase biodiversity for example?

Our project 'Animal Homes and Shelters' will focus on building sustainable habitats that will attract a diverse population of animals to our school grounds. We would like to build hedgehog houses, bird boxes and feeders, create a small pond, build a bug hotel and possibly create a bee hive (health and safety permitting). We will be able to attract more wildlife to our school grounds which will support our learning about biodiversity. We would try to use sustainable or recyclable products to help us build these homes and shelters.



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6. Please give a detailed plan of the proposed project:

We have three clear outdoor areas that we can utilise within our school grounds:

Within our Lower School outdoor area, we would like to build a bug hotel and have some bird tables/feeders. We would like to plant some shrubs and flowers within this area that will attract birds and insects.

Within our Upper School outdoor area, we would like to re-develop our garden to include more plants and shrubs that will attract birds and insects. We would also like to enclose this area with new fencing and create hedgehog homes and possibly a bee hive.

Within our Forest Schools area, we would like to develop / install a pond so that we can attract animals such as frogs, toads and dragonflies. We would like to grow plants that survive in water.



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7. How will the project benefit your school and the local community?

This project will introduce children to the natural environment and to biodiversity in a practical way. This project will offer a safe and exciting facility for outdoor education that can complement our classroom-based activities. Biodiversity provides direct links to our curriculum, providing knowledge, skills and understanding across the key stages in the following areas: life processes, humans and other animals, green plants, variation and classification, inheritance and evolution, living things in their environment. Most importantly it will make our learning practical, real, transferable and FUN!

Pupils will learn that the variety of plants and animals that exist makes it important to identify them and assign them to groups; that different plants and animals are found in different habitats; that habitats support a diversity of plants and animals that are all interdependent; that the distribution and relative abundance of organisms in habitats can be explained using ideas of interdependence, adaptation, competition and predation.

Biodiversity teaches us about the amazing variety of all living things on our planet - from plankton, wildflowers and insects to mammals, reptiles, trees and birds. It also applies to the habitats in which these living things are to be found. Biodiversity is essential because it impacts on all of our lives, both directly and indirectly.

We will communicate our learning to our local community by inviting parents and carers and visitors to school, to come and see our project work. We will share with them what we have



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learned during this project and how this impacts on the Earth's biodiversity. We will record all of our learning as part of our Eco-Schools project work.

Our children will learn that:

- no-one knows just what other benefits may be lost when species become extinct or what impact this will have on other species or habitats.
 - healthy natural ecosystems help control flooding, drought and soil erosion.
 - the quality of our lives is greatly enriched by the natural environment
 - all species have as much moral right to exist as humans.
 - Human life itself depends on the relationships between all living creatures and their environment, yet a lot of human activity is having a negative impact on biodiversity across the world.
8. How will the proposed project be managed throughout and after the project has been completed?

The School Eco-Committee will be responsible for the stage by stage planning of the project. They will agree what activities need to be complete and in what order. Miss Lea is the Eco Schools coordinator, who will help them to make democratic decisions on how to manage the project. The Eco-Committee have identified some teachers in school that they know will be able to help them. Mr Christian is the Forest Schools lead and will help build the pond. Mr Lilley is the DT lead and will help build the hedgehog houses, bird boxes



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and bug hotel. Mr Lilley will also be able to show children how to use small hand tools. Each class in school will be responsible for at least one aspect of the project, meaning that this is a whole school project.

9. Please list the materials you will need to complete the project:

Wood, tyres, nails, small hand tools, bricks, piping, pond liner, water pump, natural materials including, leaves, twigs, logs, branches, moss. We will also need seeds and plants. Low fencing panels and cement. Top soil.

10. Please give a breakdown of the costs below:



