



Green Flag 2026

School Name

The Polygon School

Award Level:

Distinction

Focus Topics:



Your Greatest Overall Success:

Your school's greatest success this year has been its brilliant partnership with the Hampshire wetland charity, giving pupils hands-on experiences that genuinely connect them to their local environment. Most pupils have had the chance to take part in river trips, helping to clear litter from riverbeds and even catching invasive crayfish, a standout example of real environmental action. It's such a positive achievement, and it's had a huge impact on the school community by building pupils' confidence, strengthening their understanding of local ecosystems and showing them that their efforts can make a meaningful difference.

We Also Loved:

- Outdoor learning has been a real strength this year, with pupils in KS3 working closely with the River Trust on meaningful marine projects. From cleaning local riverbeds and surveying wildlife to identifying invasive crayfish and clearing the canopy to support new growth, pupils have seen first-hand how their actions help local ecosystems. Building a wooden berm was a standout moment, and it's had such a positive impact by helping pupils feel genuinely connected to their environment and proud of the difference they're making.
- In Citizenship and PSHE, pupils have explored global challenges with real empathy, tackling topics like climate change, fair trade, migration, global health and human rights through interactive case studies. This curriculum link has been a brilliant way of helping pupils understand their role as global citizens, and it's strengthened the school's commitment to social justice and sustainability. The work has had a powerful impact by encouraging pupils to think deeply about the world and how they can contribute to positive change.
- Energy learning in Science has also been a highlight, with pupils researching nuclear, wind, solar, gas and oil and comparing their environmental impacts. They explored both the benefits and challenges of each energy source, from greenhouse gas emissions to wildlife protection and waste management. Pupils then investigated ways to reduce environmental harm, linking their science learning directly to sustainability. This has had a really positive effect on the school community by helping pupils understand complex issues and inspiring them to think about a more sustainable future.
- Your school has done a great job keeping pupils and the wider community informed about its eco-work. Eco-council members share written minutes with tutors, who read them out during tutor time, making sure every class knows what projects are happening and what pupils have achieved. Councillors also feed back directly to their classes after meetings, which is such a positive way of keeping pupil voice strong. Posters around the school promoting different campaigns add to this, helping pupils stay aware and encouraging everyone to get involved. Altogether, these efforts have had a brilliant impact by building communication, pride and a real sense of teamwork across the whole school community.

Next Year, Why Not Try

A brilliant year! A positive way for your school to build on its eco-projects next year would be to create an even clearer system for coordinating different groups, so pupils can take part in a wider range of activities without things becoming too complicated. This year's cross-curriculum projects worked really well and gave pupils lots of opportunities, so developing that approach further, perhaps with a simple rota or shared planning time, would make it easier for every class to get involved. It would help the school stay organised, keep projects running smoothly and make sure pupils continue to enjoy varied, meaningful eco-experiences. Well done, you are doing a fantastic job!