

# Case Study

<b>Name of School:</b>	<b>Appin Public School</b>		
<b>School Post Code:</b>	<b>2567</b>	<b>Project Completion Date:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Eco-Coordinator:</b>	<b>Suzan Turhanlar</b>	<b>Current Award Level:</b>	
<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Recycling in the School</b>		

Eco-Schools Topic: Please enter "X" in relevant boxes			
<b>Water:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Healthy Living:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Waste:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>School Grounds:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Litter:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Biodiversity:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Energy:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Global Perspective:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Transport:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>General:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Guidance Notes:

- Please type in the boxes below. The boxes will expand automatically with the text when entered.
- You are more than welcome to separate your projects out into different case studies or cover a variety of projects within the one template.

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

### Why did you decide to undertake this project? What aims did you have starting out?

During the initial audit/review, the students found that the school's recycling practices could be improved. Each class had a recycling basket for paper and cardboard but they felt it was an area that needed to be taken further. Our aim was to reduce the amount of waste the school sent to landfill.

## ACTION

### How was the project delivered?

### Was the project topic integrated into the curriculum? If so, please describe how.

The Eco-Committee was involved in a waste audit, which was provided by the local council. They sorted through the waste and found that a large amount of rubbish, that could have been reused or recycled, was sent to landfill.

Wollondilly Council donated bins to the school to be placed in the playground. We now have two recycling bins and two waste bins. The bins that were provided are regular household bins so students can transfer their knowledge developed from school to home. The Eco-Committee led a whole school lesson that aimed to show students the types of rubbish that could go in the different bins. We also found a need to use a green bin so we have also implemented that. Students in the Eco-Committee address the school daily with a piece of rubbish (wrappers, bottles etc.) and ask students which bin it will need to go in. This is a continued practice to explicitly teach students the correct way to recycle.

The Eco-Committee is also in the process of sourcing worm farms to be placed in the recycling station which is also planned. The scraps from 'crunch and sip' will be placed in these worm farms and used for the gardens. Students will be responsible for emptying their class' 'buckets' in the worm farms and/or compost.

Senior students have become 'bin monitors' and assist younger students selecting the correct bin to put their rubbish.

Students address the assembly weekly and write newsletter entries to inform and involve the wider school community.

## PUPIL LEADERSHIP

### How did you get the pupils involved? How did they have ownership?

Students led the initiative and were involved in each step of the process (as highlighted above).

## FUNDING

### Did you have to source funding for the project?

The school was awarded a grant, which will fund the new recycling station and worm farms.

## PROJECT SUPPORT

### Did you receive any support from parents, staff or outside agencies in regards to the project?

The local council supported the program through the implementation of the waste audit and the donation of the bins.

The members of staff are very supportive of the initiative and have regular discussions with classes to promote correct recycling practices.

## CHALLENGES

### Did you have to overcome any challenges to make the project succeed?

It has been a challenge ensuring students place rubbish in the correct bins. The Eco-Committee decided to use bin monitors and daily assembly notices to help the students to develop this knowledge. It is an ongoing project.

## RESULT

**How have the pupils benefitted from the project?** (E.g. knowledge gained, skills learnt, an improvement in behaviour, attainment or attendance?)

**Have there been any other benefits for the school as a result of the project?** (E.g. reduced costs, cleaner school, etc). **Please include any figures and analysis if appropriate.**

We have noticed an increased awareness of the need to recycle, however it is an ongoing project so we are unable to provide reduced figures in cost etc.

## IMPACT

### How did you measure and monitor the impact of the project?

We will regularly check the bins and collect information to inform our next steps.

We will monitor reduced costs as a result of the project.

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

### Have you used any educational resources or participated in any local or national campaigns or events? (If yes, indicate which activities you have taken part in)

The school was involved in Clean Up Australia Day, which launched the use of the new bins.

We have planned to participate in Earth Hour on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of March. Students will engage in an art lesson which incorporates the recycling symbol which will promote recycling practices.

## LESSONS LEARNED

### What advice would you give to schools that want to follow in your footsteps?

## NEXT STEPS

### Has this project inspired or driven other Eco-Schools ideas? What is the school working on next?

The Eco-Committee has a number of other projects in place. Here are a few of our ideas to work on this year:

- We have 'energy monitors' to ensure lights, fans etc. have been turned off during the breaks. This has resulted in reduced energy consumption and costs.
- Installation of a recycling station is currently being planned.
- New gardens have been planned.

- Classes will be given a space in the school grounds to be responsible for and will be given time to clean the area.

- Students are planning to investigate the policies and costs of sourcing a chicken coop.

## EXTERNAL SUPPORT

**Has your school received any local council support with regards to the Eco-Schools Program?**

Yes, see above.

Please return your completed case study and  
any relevant photographs to [info@eco-schools.org.au](mailto:info@eco-schools.org.au)

We will endeavour to publish it on the Eco-Schools website as soon as possible.

[www.eco-schools.org.au](http://www.eco-schools.org.au)