



BUILDINGS: Sustainable Schools

The Government has set targets for all schools to be sustainable by 2020 but what does being a 'sustainable school' really mean? Look at the fact sheet [Buildings - Sustainable Schools](#) to help you with this activity. There is also lots of information on the Government's Department for Children, Schools and Families and TeacherNet websites.

Activity

Devise and take a school survey by asking students and teachers about their attitudes and actions towards sustainability. Ask them what they do at school to save energy; how they reduce, reuse and recycle; and what kinds of schemes they would like to see implemented to help the whole school become more sustainable.

Now decide which five methods are the most practical and cost effective and devise a scheme for implementing and promoting them in your school.

Think about:

- how you can put these ideas into practice
- how you can promote your ideas (e.g. posters, a Sustainable School day)
- how you could take these ideas home with you in order to make your family more aware of environmental issues.

Once your ideas have been in place for a month, take another school survey to find out if and how attitudes and actions have changed and how effective your schemes have been.

Consider:

- what worked and what didn't
- what you may do differently next time
- how you think people should be encouraged to live more sustainably (e.g. which messages they need to know).