



## Empowering future eco-leaders through Wastebusters

### How are West Sussex schools tackling climate change?

By Katie Newnham, Director (Wastebusters)



With sustainability education taking centre stage in schools, the [West Sussex Wastebusters Programme](#), provided free to schools by the [West Sussex Waste Partnership](#), is proving that small actions can lead to big environmental and financial benefits. Designed to support schools in embedding sustainability into the curriculum, the programme provides step-by-step guidance, tailored resources, and powerful tracking tools to make improving environmental performance simple and

measurable. Schools that participate gain access to powerful tracking tools, resources, and support, making it easy to improve environmental performance while linking activities to the curriculum. 84% of schools have logged in and used resources this academic year.

Through structured student led initiatives, such as the [Planet Protector Challenge](#) for primary schools and the [Climate Enterprise Award](#) (CEA) for secondary schools, West Sussex schools are not only reducing waste, saving energy and water, and cutting carbon emissions, but also tracking their impact easily using Wastebuster's ground-breaking [Eco-Savings Account](#). Schools can also streamline their climate action planning with an automated tool that creates and adapts a plan linked to their sustainability efforts. By engaging students, reducing costs, and fostering responsible global citizens, the programme helps schools take meaningful climate action, while making the process easy, supportive, and fully integrated into school life.

In this article, we highlight the efforts of [Kingsham Primary School](#), [Bohunt Horsham](#), and [Bourne Community College's](#) winning entry that inspired the creation of the Sew It! Mend it! Make it! Programme, all demonstrating how schools can reduce their environmental footprint, save money, and create a culture of sustainability.

### Kingsham Primary School: an ambassador for change

As the West Sussex Planet Protector Ambassador Award winner for 2023/24, Kingsham Primary School has led the way in tackling waste, reducing carbon emissions, and engaging its whole school community in sustainable action. Their Green Gang, a student-led eco-team, has been instrumental in driving these initiatives. Over the past year, Kingsham Primary School has:

- **Reduced energy consumption by 192 kWh**, saving £65.28 and cutting 17 kg of carbon emissions.



*"This is a fantastic example of how student-led ideas can drive real-world impact," says Katy Newnham, Director at Wastebusters. "The Sew It! Mend it! Make it! Programme is now available to all schools in the County, supporting sustainability education in a practical, engaging way."*

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