



INTRODUCTION

About Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB)

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (WA) is working to address the issue of litter through educating all Australians, especially students, about the environmental impacts of litter and providing simple and effective strategies to manage and prevent the problem.



About Clean Schools

The Clean Schools education program has a range of resource materials freely available for use by your school to mount a campaign to motivate your staff, students and parents to dispose of their litter responsibly and keep your school grounds clean.

The Clean Schools program is suitable for primary or secondary school and provides you with an education program and ideas that can be tailored specifically for your school.

The program is made up of four stages:

1. Baseline data collection period
2. Intervention program period
3. Post program period
4. Follow up and evaluation

The program contains a step-by-step guide for implementation and can be run in as little as four weeks. All the support materials you need for your school to become litter free are provided by KAB when you register. We also provide curriculum based activity ideas and support and advice on running the program.

Clean Schools in partnership with the Sustainable Schools Initiative

The Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative - WA (AuSSI WA) is part of the national Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative, developed by the Australian Government (Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities) in cooperation with state and Territory education and environment agencies, and other key organisations.

AuSSI WA provides a framework that supports schools in the development of a whole-school approach to Education for Sustainability (EfS).

By participating in the Clean Schools program, your school would be participating in AuSSI WA by reducing your school's ecological footprint and increasing your social handprint.



Increase your school's 'social handprint' by:

- empowering students to enable change; maintaining a healthy / hazard-free environment (Student Wellbeing 'finger')
- forging community links (Community Partnerships 'finger')
- reducing waste and litter clean-up costs (Economics 'finger')
- enhancing clean and litter-free built environments (Built Environment 'finger')



Reduce your school's 'ecological footprint' by:

- saving energy required to make new products (Energy 'toe')
- maintaining clean waterways (Water toe)
- reducing waste sent to landfill, so reducing groundwater and air pollution; refusing products with packaging; buying local so reducing transport emissions (Air; Purchasing & Waste 'toe')
- conserving flora and fauna and preserving their habitats (Biodiversity toe)

The best things about being a Clean School

"It has been such a worthwhile process as we have far less of a litter problem now than we have had previously and even when it gets a bit much, the kids are more willing to pick it up."

Bronwyn Twining, John Wollaston Anglican Community School

"The best thing about being a Clean School is that it is sending a message not only to the students, but to the community as a whole about the dangers of littering. It is an ongoing process to change the culture in a school, by encouraging students to take responsibility for the environment around them. I believe it is one of the most valuable lessons in life."

Zoe Watson, Cecil Andrew's Senior High School

"The best thing about going through the Clean Schools program is the fact that the students took ownership of a problem teachers have been trying to deal with for years. We now have students telling other students to put their litter in the bin to keep the grounds clean. There is a real awareness of the issue amongst the students."

Kylie Durrant, Emmanuel Catholic College



Some tips to overcome barriers

Form a committee

Schools can use an existing environmental committee or set up a special Clean Schools committee to coordinate the planning and implementation of the program.

The benefit of a committee is that the responsibility of the Clean Schools projects can be shared, there is a large source of ideas, creativity and support and students are empowered in the process. With members from each level and section of a school, a committee can be a powerful way to overcome barriers and embed sound environmental values, principles and actions throughout the whole school. (*Waste Wise Way 2010*)

If students can run it...let them!

Research indicates that programs that are run by the students are highly successful as the student body take on greater responsibility for solving the litter issue. It is a great way to empower students to make change.

Choose a body of students in the school who are able to implement the program activities following the initial brainstorm and planning with staff, such as the Student Leadership Team, Environmental Committee, Bushrangers Unit or Student Council.

Talk to KABC

The Clean Schools coordinator at Keep Australia Beautiful is available to talk to you at any stage of your program. If you need help, support or inspiration to get started or are looking for resource ideas throughout the program then either phone on 6467 5122 or email cleanschools@dec.wa.gov.au.

Other organisations that schools are involved with...

The following programs and organisations can provide valuable support and resources in continuing your journey towards a clean and sustainable school:

- Waste Wise Schools program
www.wastewise.wa.gov.au
- Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative WA
www.det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/sustainableschools
- ReMida Creative Reuse Centre
www.remidawa.com
- Captain Clean Up
www.captaincleanup.com
- Great Gardens
www.greatgardens.info/main.php
- Millenium Kids
www.millenniumkids.com.au
- Solar Schools
www.cleanenergy.wa.gov.au/pages/solar_schools.asp
- Waterwise
www.watercorporation.com.au/Education