

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS



**Join the Great Big
School Clean**

28 MAY - 13 JUNE 2021

DELIVERED BY





The Great Big School Clean 2021

Spring is finally here, and as pupils around the UK begin to return to classrooms, we know teachers are busier than ever.

We have heard from many teachers who are keen to find ways to engage children in lessons outside of the classroom, and so Keep Britain Tidy's Great Big School Clean is back for 2021 for all those schools who feel they can get involved.

The Great Big School Clean will take place from 28 May – 13 June 2021. But the great news for schools is **that any clean ups you register from 21st March – 13th June will be counted towards our total.**

This year, the theme is looking after the environment and looking after yourself, as we know volunteering to do something for the greater good – and being outdoors – results in improved mental and physical wellbeing. Last year, 79% of people who took the Great British Spring Clean reported improved mood, and 51% said it encouraged them to move more.

And this gave us an idea! This spring, why not join Keep Britain Tidy and Eco-Schools as we race to the moon and back, twice, on our million mile litter picking mission.

Schools can pledge to take part in their bubbles at **keepbritaintidy.org/pledge**

This booklet is designed to give you ideas, inspiration and advice to safely plan a clean-up. You can use this activity as Litter Topic evidence when applying for our internationally recognised Eco-Schools Green Flag.

What are the benefits to children?

- Clean-ups are fun and rewarding
- Young people are able to make a difference to their local area and the world they live in
- There are opportunities for contextual learning with links to the National Curriculum
- Clean-ups improve environmental awareness among pupils
- Litter picking can also help with children's mental health and well-being by keeping active and connecting with one another

After taking part in 2020's Great British Spring Clean:

- 89% agreed that they enjoyed volunteering in GBSC 2020 and felt that they made a difference in their local area
- 79% agreed that taking part helped improve their mood
- 51% agreed that it helped them to be more active
- 44% agreed the campaign helped them feel less anxious about what is happening in the world right now



Taking Part

Let us know you're taking part, record your results and celebrate your success

1. Visit **keepbritaintidy.org/pledge** to make a pledge as a school, or a bubble/ year group. Simply select 'pledge as a group' and select school from the drop down.
This year, we will ask for the number of minutes and hours schools litter picked for. Using a slow walking pace of 3 miles per hour, we will then let you know how many miles you have helped us travel towards our mission.
2. Tell us your results- we will ask you how many bags of litter you have collected, as well as what proportion was: – plastic bottles, aluminum cans, general waste or PPE.
surveymonkey.co.uk/r/gbscschoolsfeedback
3. Share your pictures and plans with us! Tag @ecoschools @keepbritaintidy #GBSpringClean and #ecoschools ensuring all images show everyone maintaining social distance
4. And finally, share your Eco-Schools work with us here: **eco-schools.org.uk/inspiration/news/share-eco-work**

We hope this theme inspires loads of great lesson ideas, such as:

- Looking at measures – imperial and metric – and considering why different countries use different measure and how things have changed over time
- Weighing the litter you collect, and counting the number of bags
- Working out how many miles each person would need to walk to reach a million miles, if 200,000 people took part
- Looking at the litter you have collected and investigating what material it is made from, how it is made and recycled, the energy and resources involved in that packaging being produced.



Covid-19 safety advice

To ensure that the Great Big School Clean complies with the Government guidance in relation to COVID-19, this year's clean-up will be amended slightly to ensure the very greatest level of health and safety for all participants.

For our full guidance regarding COVID-19, please visit our website. Government guidance on the lockdown may tighten or ease over time, so please check government guidance or contact us if you have any questions about what is safe practice.

keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean/coronavirus-guidance

If you live in Wales or Scotland, please follow the appropriate guidance

gov.wales/coronavirus-regulations-guidance

gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-2-staying-safe-and-protecting-others

For more information visit **keepwalestidy.cymru** or **keepsotlandbeautiful.org**

For schools, we suggest you consider the most up to date government guidance on schools COVID-19 restriction measures.



Organising your clean-up

Don't forget, participating in the Great Big School Clean is excellent evidence to use when applying for your Eco-Schools Green Flag.

Equipment

You'll need the right equipment to help you successfully and safely complete a clean-up.

For example:

- High-visibility jackets or vests
- Heavy-duty gloves
- Heavy-duty refuse sacks
- Litter-pickers
- Litter hoops
- Suitable footwear
- Hand sanitiser

If your school doesn't have equipment such as litter-pickers or litter hoops, try contacting your local education authority or the council. They're often able to loan equipment or give advice and support on funding or obtaining your own equipment.

This year, Keep Britain Tidy, who are a charity, will be selling litter picking kit for children, including individual items and kits for ten pupils. Visit **shop.keepbritaintidy.org** to buy your kit today.

Consider the risks

Safety is the most important thing to consider when planning clean-ups. If you're planning to clean-up outside your school grounds you should visit the site and carry out a full risk assessment before you start. Depending on the site you choose, for example council-owned land, you might also need to get permission before the clean-up.

Always choose sites without major hazards such as busy roads, train lines, fast-flowing water or derelict buildings. It's also important to teach children that they should never reach onto a road or into water to pick up litter. Sketch a map of the area before your event and include restricted zones, litter collection areas and first aid points so that everyone involved is really clear about them, this could also be part of a geography lesson.

Safeguarding

Keep Britain Tidys safeguarding policy is available to view here: **keepbritaintidy.org/keep-britain-tidy-safeguarding-policy**



Hygiene

Before your clean-up, make sure pupils understand which items are potentially dangerous and should not be picked up in any circumstances (broken glass, drug-related litter, biohazards, etc). Teach pupils that if they are in any doubt they should ask a teacher before picking the litter up.

COVID-19 Guidance: To ensure the safety, pupils should also be briefed on hygiene:

- Observe social distancing, particularly at start and end of clean-up events when the group is congregated during the safety briefing, which should be held outside
- Bring personal hand sanitiser and appropriate PPE
- Wear heavy duty, protective gloves at all times
- Cover any cuts (however minor) with surgical tape or waterproof plaster
- Keep hands away from mouth, nose and eyes at all times
- Wash hands and forearms thoroughly before eating, drinking or going to the toilet
- Sanitise returned equipment

We have produced a “how to” guide for those hosting clean-ups, which contains vital health and safety information. This is applicable to all school clean-ups. You can read the guide and the terms and conditions by visiting **keepbritaintidy.org**.

We recommend that you read this guidance before registering your clean-up.

Downloadable packs

- Bingo
- Thank you certificate
- Revolting review

