Great Big School Clean 2019

Secondary School Pack

22 March - 23 April 2019

HEADLINE SPONSORS
About the Great Big School Clean

This spring, Eco-Schools, part of Keep Britain Tidy, is calling on schools to help improve the environment on their doorstep by taking part in the Great Big School Clean.

The Great Big School Clean is part of the Great British Spring Clean, the country’s biggest, mass-participation environmental campaign.

We’re aiming to inspire around half a million people to join forces - with schools, community organisations, businesses and councils coming together to collect and safely dispose of litter from our streets, parks and beaches, recycling as much of it as possible.
Keeping Safe during your GBSC clean-up.

Join the Great Big School Clean as we stand together and declare that litter degrades the beauty of our environment, threatens our wildlife and is simply not acceptable.

Events will take place from March 22 – April 23 2019 across the UK, with registration on our website open from mid January 2019. You can hold a clean-up (or several) any time between March 22 – April 23, but we are calling on schools to take part in a day of action on March 22.

This booklet is designed to give you ideas, inspiration and advice for your Great Big School Clean.

We have produced a “how to” guide for those hosting clean-ups, which contains vital health and safety, as well as advice about public liability insurance for your clean-up. This is also applicable to all #GBSchoolClean clean-ups. You can read the guide and the terms and conditions by following this link

http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbsc19-host-terms-and-conditions

When registering your clean-up, you will be asked to tick a box to say you have read this guidance.
Why is the Great Big School Clean important?

There are lots of reasons why it’s important to get involved. More than 2.25 million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day, with litter blighting our streets, parks and beaches and costing us nearly £1 billion a year to clear up.

Litter can harm wildlife. The RSPCA received over 7,000 calls to report incidents of animals injured by litter in 2017 in England and Wales.

We also know that litter attracts litter. Research conducted by Keep Britain Tidy in 2012 showed that people are more likely to litter in places where there’s already litter.

Taking part in a clean-up gives you the opportunity to tackle the problem and make a real difference to your local area.

Share on social:
Share your pictures and plans with us!
Tag @ecoschools @keepbritaintidy #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools
Why should you join in?

- Clean-ups are fun and rewarding
- You are able to make a difference to your local area and the world you live in
- Counts as evidence towards an international Eco-Schools Green Flag award
- To help your school forge strong links with the local community and give them a positive impression of young people
- To raise awareness of litter-related issues
- To make you feel like part of a community.

But don’t just take our word for it...

After taking part in an organised clean-up with Keep Britain Tidy:

- 92% of people said they enjoyed it
- 88% felt they had made a difference to their local area
- 88% said they would encourage others not to drop litter in the future
- 86% felt more pride for their area
- 83% felt an increased sense of community
- 82% felt more aware of the impact litter has on the environment
- 73% agreed that tidying their local area will help reduce the amount of litter ending up in the sea.
Focus on: Crisp packets

Every year, we like to look at one specific item of litter and this year our focus will be on crisp packets. During Keep Britain Tidy’s Great British Spring Clean in 2018, 49% of participants found crisp packets (or similar) when taking part in a clean-up.

This doesn’t surprise us at all. Although crisp packets look like foil, they’re actually metalised plastic film that currently cannot be recycled through your curbside collection.

We want to see what we can achieve together with crisps packets as our focus. To do this, we’re asking you to collect the following information during each clean-up:

• The total number of crisp packets you picked up
• The number of salt and vinegar, ready salted, cheese and onion and ‘other’ crisp packets collected

In our additional material section (at the back of this pack) we’ve included resources to help you collect this information. You can submit your results by filling in our simple online form. Find it here: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EcoSchoolsLitter
Registering To Take Part In The Great Big School Clean

We’re asking every school who’d like to take part in the Great Big School Clean to register their clean-up at www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean.

At Keep Britain Tidy, we want to know how it makes you feel to see litter on your streets, beaches, and parks. We want to find out how much you collected and how many people are standing up and saying – no more! And we want to tell everyone about it: the media, big businesses and the government, so we can continue to pursue and influence change.

You can do three things on our website:

1. **Sign up to access your personalised dashboard:** Visit www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean to sign up to host a clean-up. Once registered, you can log in to your personalised dashboard where you will be able to add your clean-ups, access exclusive content and resources, and record your results. You’ll also receive emails from us about relevant Great Big School Clean news, resources and more to help you with your clean-up (you can unsubscribe at any time).

2. **Add your clean-up:** Visit your dashboard to add your clean-up. You can list as many as you like. Details of your school’s clean-up will remain private and only you will be able to see details of your clean-up on the website. Other users will see the name of the clean-up only and will not be able to contact you about joining.

3. **Report your results** After your clean-up, we’d like all our event hosts to return to their personalised portal and report on the results of the event. We’re counting how many people took part, how many minutes they picked for and how many bags of litter were collected.

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**Downloadable Great Big School Pack contents:**

- Posters that you can download and print to promote your event
- Participation certificates
- Litter bingo
- Assembly PowerPoint and supporting teacher notes

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**HEADLINE SPONSORS**

- The Great Big School Clean
- Keep Britain Tidy
- Eco-Schools
- Wilko
Step 1: #LitterHeroes

Start by deciding who’ll take the lead on organising the clean-up in your school. As you’re reading this guide, it’s probably going to be you!

It’ll be your responsibility to coordinate the clean-up(s) and make sure you involve the whole school and the wider community as much as possible. You’ll need to gather the rest of your Eco-Committee or a group of likeminded friends to help you. You’ll also need to involve a teacher to help with logistics and encourage the whole school to get involved.

You’ll be responsible for:

- Deciding how many clean-ups your school will complete. Will it only be on 22 March 2019 or will several be organised between 22 March and 23 April 2019?
- Involving as many people as possible in the clean-up(s)
- Reviewing the litter problem in your school and local area
- Deciding when and where your clean-up(s) will take place
- Gathering and looking after the equipment needed for clean-ups
- Informing your school about litter-related issues
- Involving the whole school and wider community in litter actions
- Gathering data to monitor and evaluate the success of your Great Big School Clean.
Step 2: Litter Review

In our Additional Materials section, you’ll find a review questionnaire which has been specifically designed to examine the litter situation in your school and the surrounding area. It should also allow you to start thinking about the causes of litter and how to tackle them. The questionnaire should be completed by as many students as possible and shouldn’t take longer than 15 minutes to fill out.

Once you’ve collected data from the litter review, it’s time to collate, analyse and share it. We recommend you use the information to identify litter hot spots and create graphs, charts and factsheets which can be posted on your Eco-Board. You could also share your findings in an assembly and inform the wider school community through newsletters or social media @ecoschools and @keepbritaintidy #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools

When you’ve completed your clean-up(s), we recommend you repeat your litter review survey. You can compare your old and new results, which should hopefully demonstrate a reduction in litter in and around your school as well as an improved awareness of issues relating to litter. The improvement can be fed back to the whole school and used as evidence for Step 6 of your international Eco-Schools Green Flag award.
Step 3: Planning a Clean-up

Now you’ve gathered data using your litter review, it’s time to begin planning your clean-up(s).

Who?

The first thing you need to think about is who’s going to be involved. Initially, it might just be the Litter Committee completing a clean-up. However, at Eco-Schools, we like to encourage whole school involvement whenever possible. You could set a rota allowing a different class or year group the chance to join in a clean-up throughout the duration of the Great Big School Clean.

Remember The Great Big School Clean runs from 22 March 2019 - 23 April 2019.

The Great Big School Clean Day of Action

Friday 22 March 2019

You might also want to invite parents, carers or other members of the school community to join in. This can also help you provide evidence towards your Eco-Schools Green Flag award Step 5: Informing and Involving.

When?

22 March 2019 The Great Big School Clean Day of Action!

If you can’t participate on this day or you want to organise multiple clean-ups The Great Big School Clean runs from 22 March 2019 to 23 April 2019.

You might want to organise your clean-ups during break, lunch, lessons, before or after school - it is totally up to you. Remember that if you’re planning on involving your wider school community it might be best to plan some of your events outside school hours, maybe even at the weekend!

Where?

If only you and your Litter Committee are completing the clean-up, it can take place within the school grounds. If you want to involve the whole school or wider community, and we recommend you involve as many as possible, your clean-up will need to move further afield - hopefully your school grounds don’t have enough litter to keep a whole school busy!

Your Litter Review should help you to identify areas with the most litter, but remember to keep yourself and your schoolmates safe by choosing low-risk areas for your clean-up(s) such as your local Green Flag park or Blue Flag beach.
You’ll need the right equipment to help you successfully and safely complete a clean-up.

For example:
- High-visibility jackets or tabards
- Heavy-duty gloves
- Heavy-duty refuse sacks
- Litter-pickers
- Litter hoops
- Suitable footwear.

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, Wilko will be selling a range of equipment to help you get started with your clean-up, including litter-pickers.

You can also download and print our Litter Bingo activity from your Great Big School Clean packs - a fun, easy way to make your clean-up even more engaging and enjoyable.

Safety

Safety is the most important thing to consider when planning a clean-up(s). If you’re planning a clean-up outside your school grounds you need to ask a teacher to 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 remember (and to remind other students) that they should never reach onto a road or into water to pick up litter. Why not sketch a map of the area before your event and include restricted zones and hazards, litter collection areas and first aid points so that everyone involved is really clear about where everything is.

As mentioned earlier, it’s important to make sure you have the right equipment for your clean-up. High-visibility jackets might not be cool, but they’ll allow your group to be easily seen and help everyone feel like part of a team. You’ll need heavy-duty refuse sacks to store collected rubbish and heavy-duty gloves to protect your hands. We also recommend you always use litter-pickers and hoops.

Before each clean-up, it’s really important to make sure everyone understands which items are potentially dangerous and should not be picked up in any circumstances (broken glass, drug-related litter, biohazards, etc). You’ll also need to tell everyone involved what to do if they come across any of these items. Ask your Eco-Coordinator for guidance on this and check your local council website to see if there is any information specific to your area. The best piece of advice is that if you’re not sure, ask.

It’s also important that everyone involved knows about hygiene issues:
- Wear heavy-duty, protective gloves at all times
- Cover any cuts (however minor) with surgical tape or a waterproof plaster
- Do not touch your mouth or eyes while picking litter
- Wash your hands and forearms before eating, drinking or going to the toilet.
Step 4: Litter Lessons

Getting involved in a clean-up provides the opportunity to include related issues in your GCSE and A-Level lessons. We've included a few suggestions for your subject teachers below, but if you have your own ideas please let us know so we can share them with other schools @ecoschools #ecoschools

- **English:** Writing a balanced argument titled “Is it the council’s job to clear up litter?”
- **English:** Writing a newspaper report about your clean-up
- **Maths:** Gather data to carry out statistical analysis and create graphs and charts for the Eco-Board
- **Geography:** Map the litter found on your clean-up to identify litter hotspots before investigating the causes and possible solutions
- **Geography:** Investigate the impact of litter in your local area and around the world
- **Geography:** Compare and contrast what countries around the world have done to combat litter
- **Chemistry:** Examine everyday materials like polymers, looking at their properties, why they’re used and their effect on the environment
- **Design and Technology:** Design a product aimed at reducing litter, for example a more appealing or hygienic bin for younger children, then make a prototype.

Step 5: Informing and Involving

By Step 5, you should have carried out a Litter Review to collect data, decided on the logistics of your clean-up and talked to your teachers about including litter in their lessons. Now it’s time to think about how you can get people involved in your clean-up(s) by letting everyone know about it.

The best way to involve your whole school is by getting everyone out there picking litter. If you plan to have the clean-up outside the school grounds, you can involve your wider school community by inviting them.

You can keep the entire school community up-to-date through newsletters, assemblies, school social media accounts and posting on your Eco-Board.

Make sure you:
- Explain what a clean-up is and why it’s important
- Explain the findings of your Litter Review
- Let everybody know when and where your clean-ups are happening as well as who’s taking part
- Present data on how the clean-up(s) went and how much litter was collected
- Inform everyone about your school’s Clean Code (Step 7).

Don’t forget to use the materials we have provided in your Great Big School Clean pack! Let your whole school know when and where by completing and printing our posters, host an assembly to tell your school why it is important to get involved.
The Great Big School Clean

It’s time for your school to get out there and get cleaning! Have fun, stay safe and be proud of yourselves. Every single piece of litter that is picked up benefits the environment and your local area.

Don’t forget to let us know what you are doing on social media #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools.

Step 6: Monitoring and Evaluating

When The Great Big School Clean is over, it’s time to decide if it was a success.

At Keep Britain Tidy and Eco Schools, we try to demonstrate what can be achieved when a whole community takes action against litter. We want to know how it makes you feel to see litter on your streets, your beaches, and parks. We want to know how much you collected and how many people are standing up and saying – no more! And we want to tell everyone about it: the media, big businesses and the government, so we can continue to pursue and influence change.

Reporting your results

So please, after every Great Big School Clean clean-up, return to your personal dashboard on the Keep Britain Tidy website and tell us:

- The total number of bin bags you collected
- The type of litter (plastic bottles, aluminium cans, general waste)
- The number of people who participated.

And focusing on our crisp theme:

- Count the total number of crisp packets picked up
- See what proportion of crisp packets collected were salt and vinegar, ready salted, cheese and onion and ‘other’ flavoured
- Identify the most littered brand of crisp.

You could also weigh the total amount of litter collected using luggage scales or record the total pieces of litter collected using tally charts or a clicker counter, or simply count the number of bin bags collected then use this data to create graphs and charts for your Eco-Board.
Step 7: Clean Code

Here’s our idea:

Now you’ve organised, completed and evaluated the success of your clean-up, it’s time to create a Clean Code for your school that can be incorporated into your Eco-School’s existing Eco-Code.

Your school’s Clean Code should be a mission statement that reflects your school’s attitude towards litter.

Girls
Boys and teachers too
Spring clean our grounds and the local Community too!

We know this is rubbish can you do better? Let us know @ecoschools #ecoschools.

Thanks for taking part,
The team at Eco-Schools.
Revolting Review

Which photo best represents the litter situation in our school?

A  B  C  D
Have you ever littered?  

Would you drop litter?  

Do you think it is important not to drop litter?  

Have you ever participated in a litter pick?  

Would you be willing to try litter picking?  

What would you do with litter if you are walking home or to school and can’t find a bin?

- Drop it on the ground, someone else will pick it up
- Keep hold of it and put it in the bin when I reach my destination
- Put it somewhere that doesn’t look messy like next to a wall or on a bench

Have you seen litter in our school today?  

If you answered yes, how many pieces?

- 1-2
- 2-10
- 10+

Did you see any litter on your way to school today?  

If you answered yes, roughly how many pieces?
Which of these do you think is the most common item of litter?

- ☐ Drink bottles and cans
- ☐ Crisp packets
- ☐ Plastic bags
- ☐ Fast food wrappers
- ☐ Sweet and chocolate wrappers
- ☐ Coffee cups
- ☐ Other

Which area of our school grounds do you think has the most litter?

______________________________

Why do you think it is important to not drop litter?

- ☐ It looks horrible
- ☐ It damages the environment
- ☐ It harms animals
- ☐ It is unhygienic
- ☐ It costs lots of money to clean up
- ☐ All of the above

Thank you for completing our Revolting Review
# Crisps

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<th>Tally</th>
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<td>Salt and vinegar</td>
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<td>Cheese and onion</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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Number of crisp packets collected:
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