

FUN FACTS

Green schools save significant money on utility bills, use less energy and water, and improve student health and performance.

Some schools have achieved zero-energy, near-zero-waste status and have been recognized for being some of the greenest in the world.

World's top green schools/universities:

- Western Sydney University: #1
- College of the Atlantic
- University of Manchester
- Green School Bali
- Uaso Nyiro Primary
- Terra Moyo International



PREPARED FOR GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVE

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GREENING
EVERY
SCHOOL

FOR CLIMATE ACTION
AND SUSTAINABILITY

ABOUT GREEN SCHOOL

A “green school” is defined as a learning institution that takes a whole-of-institution approach to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), in particular by addressing climate change through its teaching, facilities and operations, school governance & community partnerships.

Green schools aim to promote knowledge and skills for the social, economic, cultural, and environmental aspects of sustainable development.

As part of UNESCO’s contribution to the Greening Education Partnership, a collaborative process has been undertaken to develop the Green school quality standard with the goal of transforming at least 50% of schools in each country into green schools by 2030.



7 STEPS TO A GREEN SCHOOL

01. Establish A Green Team or Eco-Committee
02. Adopt An Environmental Vision Statement or Planet Pledge
03. Conduct A School Environmental Survey or Audit
04. Create A Green School Action Plan
05. Monitor and Evaluate Progress
06. Integrate Greening into the Curriculum
07. Inform, Involve, and Celebrate!

ADVANTAGES

- Student Well-being and Health:
 - Improved health: Access to green spaces is linked to better physical and mental health for students.
 - Enhanced learning environment: Green schools can lead to improved academic performance and better student behavior.
- Educational Opportunities:
 - Hands-on learning: The physical environment of a green school can serve as a teaching tool, providing real-world, hands-on learning opportunities about sustainability.
 - Increased environmental awareness: Students develop a deeper understanding of and connection to nature and environmental issues.

DISADVANTAGES

- Initial Costs:
 - Higher upfront investment
- Maintenance and Safety:
 - Maintenance challenges: Maintaining natural or “green” features can require extra resources and expertise.
 - Safety concerns: Parents and staff may worry about safety and hygiene issues, such as potential for dirt and injuries in natural play areas.
- Restricted Play:
 - Less variety: In some cases, the design of green schoolyards may lead to fewer types of play opportunities compared to traditional playgrounds.