

SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



#DirtIsGoodProject



The Dirt Is Good Schools Programme is a free programme which empowers students aged 7-14 to unite in compassion and take action on the social and environmental causes they care about.

The programme helps to bring the curriculum to life by connecting learning to current global issues identified by the **United Nations** in its **Sustainable Development Goals**.

With all the activities and resources ready and available on the website, you are given everything you need to deliver the programme and start your students on their Changemaker Journeys.

The Purpose

Research by Global Action Plan has found a **misperception gap in young people**; believing that others do not care about social and environmental issues when they actually do. This is coined as the **Values Perception Gap**. When young people have a 'values perception gap', they are found to:

- Have lower emotional well-being.
- Feel more worried about the future.
- Be less likely to act on the issues they care about.

The purpose of The Dirt Is Good Schools Programme is to **narrow the Values Perception Gap** in young people, and the effect it has on their wellbeing, by **normalising taking action** on social and environmental causes that they care about.

The Dirt Is Good Way

The Dirt Is Good Way is a new way of powering up young Changemakers. It **champions compassionate values** and makes them visible, whilst also **normalising collective action**.

The Dirt Is Good Way is built upon four key principles using insights from the latest research into what motivates young people to take action.

DIRT IS GOOD PRINCIPLES



United in compassion



Get stuck in



Everyone has a role to play



On a journey

“It gave pupils, in particular the researcher and reporter, a leadership role.”

“The programme linked to their curricular themes of Global Goals and Human Rights and encouraged the pupils to put learning into action.”

“The programme helped us to evidence against the Eco Schools Green Flag Award criteria — we have now been awarded the Eco Schools Green Flag!”

Anne, RE and Philosophy Teacher.

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Impact on students

Throughout their Dirt Is Good Journey your students will discover many new things about themselves and will benefit from participating in a space that allows them to:

- **grow in confidence and boost their self-esteem**
- **feel more connected with their peers**
- **develop leadership and group-work skills**
- **reflect on their progress, achievements, and learnings**

The programme will also support your efforts to improve wellbeing and reduce eco-anxiety amongst your students.



Making it happen - the Coach

Each school participating in the programme will need to identify a member of staff to undertake the role of 'Coach' - this could be a teacher or a member of your support staff.

The Coach's role involves:

- **Nurturing the skills, knowledge, values and confidence** students need to become Changemakers for life.
- **Guiding and supporting** students to design and run projects that create positive social and environmental change.

To support them in getting to grips with their role as Coach, there is a series of online CPD training videos on the website to compliment the comprehensive online teaching resources.

"The Dirt Is Good Schools Programme has provided us with the framework for Citizenship and Life Skills lessons for the whole year!"

"It's got the whole school thinking about the outside."



"The students who have struggled in other academic areas, have really, really flourished."

Emma, Primary School Class Teacher

Making it happen - how to get started



To help you get started with the Dirt Is Good Schools Programme, we are inviting you to:



1 Explore the [Dirt Is Good Journey](#) to see the different ways the programme can be run in your school



2 Attend a group Information Session with our Schools Engagement Manager.

This call will be your chance to learn more about the programme, ask questions and receive advice.

View the schedule and register for a session [here](#).

Can't make one of the sessions? [Click here](#) to book a one-to-one at a time that suits you.



3 Sign up to the programme and login to the website to explore the programme resources and access the CPD videos.

[Click here to sign-up!](#)

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