

# Environmental Education for Sustainability in Schools

## Wellington City Council Resource List

Recycling, energy reduction, growing food, sustainable transport... there are many environmental topics for students to study, and lots of ways for schools to lead by example. Wellington City Council recognises this and can provide the following support to help you achieve both your learning and school development goals.

### Restoration planting

#### Anita Benbrook

Biodiversity Specialist - Plants  
04 803 8649 | [anita.benbrook@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:anita.benbrook@wcc.govt.nz)

Anita coordinates planting activities for WCC and helps coordinate community plantings in Reserve Land. Schools can attend Council-organised plantings during winter.

Anita can advise schools on:

- planting projects on school grounds if it has an educational focus and/or forms a stepping stone for native wildlife.
- how to join in with native planting projects on public land with WCC or the community.

### Sustainable Transport

#### George Booty

Sustainable Transport Coordinator  
021 247 8042 | [george.booty@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:george.booty@wcc.govt.nz)

George runs TipiHaere TravelWell - our school travel programme which aims to make it safer and easier for tamariki (and their whānau) to choose active or sustainable modes of travel. We provide support for walking school buses, park and stride, scooter skills, and other active travel promotions. We also liaise between schools and other agencies to make the journey to school safer for everyone.

### Sustainable Food and Urban Agriculture

#### Katie Irwin

Neighbourhood and Community Advisor  
021 227 8330 | [katie.irwin@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:katie.irwin@wcc.govt.nz)

Katie works with community groups and organisations who want to set up edible gardens, community composts and other garden related activities around the city.

Katie can:

- give you practical advice on setting up a garden and growing the community around the garden
- connect schools to existing local community gardens
- give advice on where to source materials for your garden.

### Energy monitoring and conservation at schools

#### Tom Pettit

Sustainability Manager  
021 227 8317 | [tom.pettit@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:tom.pettit@wcc.govt.nz)

Tom can provide direction for schools and/or classes that are interested in starting their energy conservation journey or understanding more about climate change.

## Waste education

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### Jo Langford

Waste Educator

021 578 863 | [waste.education@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:waste.education@wcc.govt.nz)

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Jo organises free school tours of the Southern Landfill and can visit classes to give a 30 minute talk on:

- composting and worm farming
- Love Food Hate Waste
- Reduce-Reuse-Recycle

The Waste Minimisation team can provide and help set up a free compost bin and worm farm for every school. Funding is available to help with waste minimisation projects and to cover recycling costs.

### Waste Heroes

This Waste Education Programme for schools, explores waste minimisation through Māori mythology, song and dance, interactive activities, tours and practical hands on ideas for reducing waste. For more information please email: [joanna.langford@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:joanna.langford@wcc.govt.nz)

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## Wellington Botanic Garden and Otari Wilton's Bush

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### Marion Saunders

Botanic Garden Educator

021 954 985 | [gardens.education@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:gardens.education@wcc.govt.nz)

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### Discovery Garden

At the Wellington Botanic Garden we offer hands-on sessions in our Discovery Garden that connect students with the way we use plants in our everyday lives as food, fabric, construction and medicine. Education sessions are available Monday to Friday during term time. School groups must make a booking to visit the Discovery Garden. Let us know if you'd like to visit the wider garden instead.

### Otari Wilton's Bush

Through our Bush Guide programme, senior students from Otari School are Otari Wilton's Bush ambassadors and may be available to help with your visit. Please contact our educators for further information.

Secondary school biology and horticulture tours, linked to the year 12 and 13 curriculum are also available at Otari, delivered by the Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust.

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## Council Partners

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### Enviroschools - Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui

04 830 4485 | [enviroschools@gw.govt.nz](mailto:enviroschools@gw.govt.nz) | [enviroschools.org.nz](http://enviroschools.org.nz)

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The Enviroschools Programme provides a framework for schools to engage with a whole school sustainability journey. We also provide regular professional development and networking hui which are available to all schools.

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### The Sustainability Trust - Kim Tabrum

04 385 0500 x 715 | [advice@sustaintrust.org.nz](mailto:advice@sustaintrust.org.nz) | [sustaintrust.org.nz](http://sustaintrust.org.nz)

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### Workshops and Waste Audits

The Education Team at Sustainability Trust offers a wide range of curriculum-linked sustainability education programmes. Students can visit our award-winning EcoCentre, to explore a range of sustainability topics.

Our team can also visit schools to present workshops, which include building compost bins, establishing worm farms, or encouraging pollinators to visit the school gardens. We support schools hoping to reduce their environmental impact by providing a comprehensive waste minimisation programme. Our educators are experts in both developing great waste minimisation systems in schools – and in engaging students to examine their own waste behaviours and those of their whole school community.

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### Wellington Water - The Community Engagement team

04 912 4400 | [info@wellingtonwater.co.nz](mailto:info@wellingtonwater.co.nz) | [wellingtonwater.co.nz](http://wellingtonwater.co.nz)

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Water conservation, stormwater and wastewater.

We can provide schools with educational resources and investigation ideas on water conservation, stormwater and wastewater. We also have a water-saving interactive display machine and teaching guide that we can bring to your school. Students use the machine to measure and compare different uses of water.

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### ZEALANDIA - Steve Moorhouse

04 920 9204 | [education@visitzealandia.com](mailto:education@visitzealandia.com) | [www.visitzealandia.com](http://www.visitzealandia.com)

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ZEALANDIA's education programme is unique, enabling learning opportunities within a world-leading conservation project. A living laboratory where people can learn about Aotearoa's natural history and the science behind conservation.

The award winning in-sanctuary sessions are supported by outreach programmes, enabling students to see what they can achieve in their own special places. This helps students learn while delivering real conservation outcomes for their communities.

Groups also have the unique opportunity to take part in night walks or even 'Sleepover' at ZEALANDIA!

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### Wellington Zoo - Charles Wilson

04 389 3692 | [wellingtonzoo@wellingtonzoo.com](mailto:wellingtonzoo@wellingtonzoo.com) | [wellingtonzoo.com/schools/](http://wellingtonzoo.com/schools/)

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The Zoo's Bush Builders environmental literacy and action programme is free to schools and inspires urban students to take ownership of their local environment and community. This programme has three phases and includes activities at the Zoo and at school culminating in a student-led environmental action project.