

Details of Toolkit updates supported by FIA Foundation

CLEANER AIR 4 SCHOOL TOOLKIT

London Sustainability Exchange has updated the Cleaner Air 4 Schools Toolkit. It will help you and your pupils find out the answers to the following questions:

- What is Air quality?
- How does it affect us?
- How do we measure it?
- Can we make a difference?

We've divided up this toolkit into four sections: explore, experiment, analyse and take action. All four sections go together as a full unit of work but we've left room for you to be flexible if you just have time for a lesson or two.

PART ONE: EXPLORE

In this part your pupils will learn about the Great Smog of 1952. They will then learn about the basic make up of air, different types of pollutants, what causes them and what they do to human and environmental health. This will help them come up with imaginative best case and worst case scenarios for poor air quality.

Your pupils also will become "Air Quality Detectives", creating a baseline of attitudes at school and at home that they will attempt to influence over the course of this project.

PART TWO: EXPERIMENT

In this part your pupils will build on their learning from part one, moving from understanding what air quality is to finding out how to measure it. We have prepared a set of three experiments using NO₂ diffusion tubes, lichen mapping or Air Quality wipe testing that work together or separately.

PART THREE: ANALYSE

Your pupils will take all the information they've gathered in from the experiments in part two and analyse the results. They will see examples of data journalism and infographics to inspire them to present their results in an attractive and easy to understand manner. Your class will discuss the results and think about their predictions from part two: are the results as they expected?

PART FOUR: TAKE ACTION

In the final part of the Cleaner Air 4 Schools toolkit, your class will think about communication, campaigning and encouraging behaviour change in their own lives, in the school and in their community.

Your pupils will learn about the ways in which messages are communicated and analyse them for content, style and emotion. Your class will use this learning to think about how to communicate the importance of good air quality. They will assess a number of suggestions and select class, group or individual projects to take forward.

ACTIONS CHILDREN CAN TAKE:

Traveling to school:

- Walk, cycle or scooter to school
- Use public transport: take the bus, tube or train
- If you have to travel by car travel with friends.

Maintain a healthy diet and do exercise:

- 150 minutes of exercise a week
- Benefits cycling and walking outweigh the risk of air pollution
- Nutrients such as Vitamins B,C,D and E may avert some of the harmful effects of air pollution.

LINKS TO LEARNING

The Cleaner Air 4 Schools toolkit has been designed to deliver key learning objectives and curricular aims for Science and Geography at KS2. Part four also contains activities that build comprehension and composition skills required for English at KS2.

Additionally, this toolkit is ideal for use if your school is taking part in the **Healthy Schools, Silver Crest or TFL STARS programmes**.

THE TOOLKIT UNDERWENT A THREE STAGE REVISION PROCESS

1. External review undertaken by students of Imperial College London "London Sustainability Exchange and the Cleaner Air 4 Schools Programme: An Evaluation" (2017).

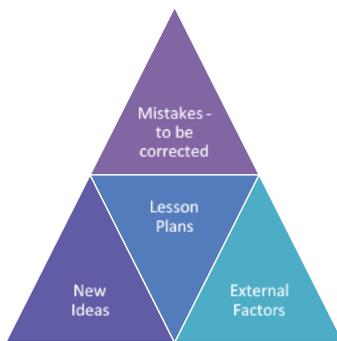
1. Internal revision assessment within LSx and in collaboration with educational specialist **Do it Kits**.
2. Contributions from London stakeholders including the **Greater London Authority, City of London, TfL STARS team, London Borough of Southwark, London Borough of Islington, Loop Labs, Sustrans and Groundwork**. A topic guide was produced based on the first two stages of review. This element focused on future travel for the Toolkit taking into account aspirations of the stakeholders (overall strategic opportunities) as well as a critique of activities and communications. Findings are outlined the table below.

CONSOLIDATION

Following this, the results and findings were consolidated in a second internal workshop. A three prong approach to the refresh was outlined (displayed in the Toolkit Triangle).

“A Strong Action Plan is the route to success” – GLA

‘There is a great difficulty in delivering the health message, this updated Toolkit should help’ – City of London



TOOLKIT TRIANGLE

OVERALL STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES AS IDENTIFIED BY STAKEHOLDERS

Promote / link to the GLA Healthy Schools London Awards Initiative particularly healthy food choice, physical activity and active travel. Toolkit can be added under the Active Travel section.

- Promote / link to TfL STARS programme.
- Advice schools on how to update travel plans and school policies relating to air pollution

Activities

- Suggest activities for one-off engagements and longer-term project
- Suggested timeframe / time of year / year group (Spring-term is best)

Communications

- Create guidance on how schools should respond to air pollution alerts
- Comms guidance and templates to encourage parental commitment
- Create checklist of things schools can do exclusive of Toolkit (stretch activities)

AREA	TOOLKIT IMPROVEMENT
Activities and data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of diffusion tube protocol • Continuous monitoring • New and improved activities
Effective communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of case study templates • Comms guidance produced for the school, including ‘difficult to deliver health messages’
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved accessibility and ‘breakability’ allowing schools to pick and choose • Improved signposting