# Eco-Schools Bermuda

Donor Update July 2023



#### **Eco-Schools Bermuda**

Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute





## About Eco-Schools

Eco-Schools Bermuda is an environmental education programme that works with local schools to form student-led eco-clubs focused on making sustainable change.

BUEI (Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute) became the National Operator for the programme in September 2019 and retained a full-time coordinator in September 2020.

## Eco-Schools as a Globally Accredited Programme



Eco-Schools adheres to a globally established methodology, accredited by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). With a distinguished relationship with UNESCO, Eco-Schools aims to empower schools to make meaningful impacts on their local communities.

The Eco-Schools curriculum follows and supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and integrates them into its educational framework.

Through this approach, Eco-Schools cultivates environmentally conscious and socially responsible individuals who positively contribute to their communities.

BUEI

## **Programme Overview**

The Eco-Schools methodology consists of 10 sustainability pathways, from "Waste and Litter Minimization" to "Energy Consumption" and provides a 7-Step Framework (*Figure 2*) to keep schools on track throughout the academic year.



*Figure 2*: The Eco-Schools 7-Step Framework, moving clockwise from "Eco-Committee". BU

**Eco-Schools Bermuda** 

## The Eco-Schools Pathways





WATER



WASTE & LITTER MINIMIZATION BIODIVERSITY



TRANSPORT



CLIMATE CHANGE



SUSTAINABLE FOOD





I



SCHOOL GROUNDS



MARINE & COAST



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## Eco-Schools in 2023

Eco-Schools remains committed to recognizing and rewarding students for their sustainable efforts. We believe that promoting sustainability is essential for the well-being of our planet and future generations.

We encourage our students to develop a deep understanding of environmental issues and adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives.

We recognize and celebrate their efforts through various initiatives, such as green awards, sustainability fairs, and community service projects. We also collaborate with local organizations and businesses to provide our students with hands-on learning opportunities and real-world experiences in sustainable practices.

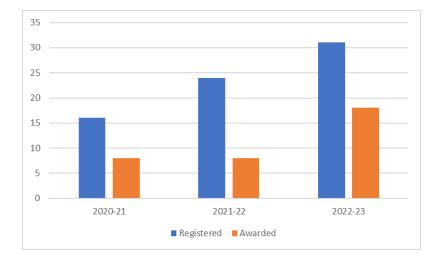




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## **Programme Metrics 2023**

- Eco-Schools Bermuda promotes sustainability from early childhood education through Bermuda College, with public schools representing the majority of student engagement.
- In the 2021-2022 school year, seven public schools earned awards. In the 2022-2023 school year 11 public schools earned Eco-Schools awards. The recent awards were at higher achievement levels than those earned during the previous school year; demonstrating increased engagement and commitment to sustainability among participating public schools.
- At 2022/23 academic year-end, 5 Green Flag Awards, 1 Green Shoot Award and 6 Green Seed Awards were presented.
- There were 1,070 participants in total and 770 hours of Greening Education were attributed to this program.



Eco-Schools schools 2020-2023

BUEI

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## World Oceans Day 2023

Over 250 students and educators from various local schools participating in the Eco-Schools Programme visited BUEI on June 8th and 9th to celebrate World Oceans Day.





## Green Flag Raising 2023

This recognition showcases their unwavering commitment to sustainability and highlights the positive impact of student-led initiatives.





## Eco-Schools: Collaboration in Education Transition

The Ministry of Education in Bermuda is currently undergoing a significant reform process at present.

Eco-Schools Bermuda remains confident in the upward trend of school involvement, which has been greatly supported by maintaining strong working relationships through its successful educational opportunities and offerings this year.

Additionally, several schools that temporarily paused their participation due to the education reform are now keen to resume their involvement for the 2023-2024 school year which highlights the program's positive impact and dedication to promoting Greening Education awareness through education.





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## Collaborative Project Highlights 2022-2023

The Eco-Schools programme works with local experts in the field, referred to as **Delivery Partners**, to support schools across their respective pathways.



**The St. George's Rotaract Club** supported Francis Patton during their 'Say No to Plastic' Lemonade sale.

**The Bermuda National Trust** supported **Paget Primary School** in their biodiversity pathway through railway excursions, clearing of invasive plant species and planting of native and endemic trees.

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**KBB** supported **West End Primary** through their Waste and Litter Minimization Pathway.



Waste Management Bermuda supported The Berkeley Institute during their Waste Audit which was also a part of YCS activities.



**Bermuda 3D Printing** supported **Purvis Primary** through their School Grounds Pathway by helping to enhance their school sign design.



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### **Collaborative Projects Beyond Eco-Schools**

BUEI supported and attended two school tours hosted by CariGenetics at Port Royal Primary and Prospect Primary School. BUEI Supported the Beyond Plastic Campaign and used it as an introduction to Eco-Schools for nonparticipating schools. BUEI supported the Earth Day Challenge through Greenrock and promoted Eco-Schools and YRE during the press release. CLICK HERE TO READ







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## **Collaborative Projects**

The Eco-Schools programme also partners with environmental organizations to cross-promote shared calls to action.



In April 2023 the **Department** of Parks became the Delivery Partner of four local, public schools including our newest Eco-Club School, **Prospect Preschool**. Prospect Preschool became our newest Eco-Club School and is partnering with Cedarbridge Academy and the Department of Parks to support their school garden project.

This year, in April 2023, West End Primary and Somerset Primary participated in Earth Day activities as a part of FEE's Global Action Days campaign.



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# Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE)

YRE is a FEE accredited environment-focused community journalism programme offered to schools, youth groups or individuals aged 11-25.

The YRE programme allows students to use three media tools (writing, photography and film) to engage their audience in local environmental topics whilst building constructive journalism and investigative skills.

Similar to Eco-Schools, this programme helps to support environmental awareness and community engagement.

Click <u>HERE</u> to learn more about YRE Bermuda.





## **Collaborative Projects for YRE**

BUEI collaborated with YCS to deliver the YRE curriculum to the YCS students along with their trip to NonSuch Island through Nonsuch Expeditions.

BUEI collaborated with Geminii Photography to offer an environmental photojournalism workshop to Bermuda College and Berkeley Institute students.

BUEI incorporated the YRE curriculum into its Half-term and Spring camps for students ages 9-13.

6 Students received YRE National Awards During World Oceans Day

Bermuda was recognized as a winner in the YRE Global Competition Article Submission. The submission won second place. <u>CLICK HERE TO READ</u>







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## **Eco-Clubs in Action**





West End Primary School: Waste and Litter Minimisation Pathway.



Somerset Primary: Beach Cleanup as a part of their sustainable activities.



Francis Patton Primary displaying their Eco-Club school garden.

## **Eco-Schools: Looking Ahead**

Eco-Schools Bermuda has achieved remarkable success in creating and supporting high-level curriculum learning and sustainable actions with its current resources. As we look ahead to the 2023-2024 school year, we aspire to further enhance our impact through additional school support services and exciting new partnerships.

To ensure programme administration is efficient for all schools, participants and partners, Eco-Schools Bermuda aims to purchase Eco-Schools Canada's custom-built online platform, the EcoS-chools Certification Application (ECA).

The ECA also serves as a real-time data collection tool, quantifying schools' actions into statistics and visuals, showcasing participation and multi-level sustainability impact.

With increasing demand local teachers to have an efficient way of documenting their Eco-Club activities, this online option will further support Bermuda's Eco-Schools' engagement.

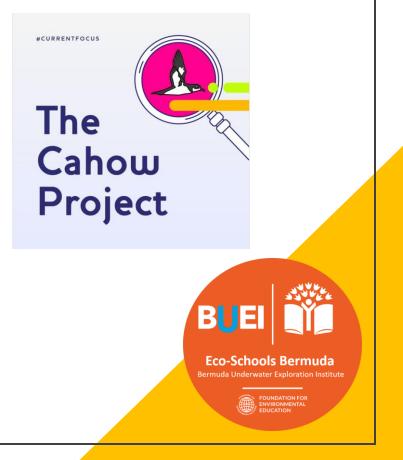


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#### **Eco-Schools: Looking Ahead Continued**

For the 2023-2024 school year, CariGenetics has joined Eco-Schools Bermuda as a Delivery Partner. This partnership will provide support and access to public schools to explore genetics research that is relevant to this local.

As part of the partnership, CariGenetics will play a vital role in the Biodiversity Pathway, offering hands-on teaching and support to students in public schools, guiding them in sampling and analyzing DNA from the Cahow, a significant step towards fostering a deeper understanding of the island's unique biodiversity.



## 2023 Eco-Schools & Delivery Partners

#### 2023 Eco-Schools

West Pembroke Primary School Francis Patton Primary School Paget Primary School Purvis Primary School Victor Scott Primary School Elliot Primary School Prospect Preschool The Homeschool Network Warwick Academy Somerset Primary Harrington Sound Primary West End Primary Sandy's Middle School Whitney Middle School The Berkeley Institute Bermuda High School Chatmore International School Bermuda College

#### **2023** Delivery Partners

Keep Bermuda Beautiful Waste Management Bermuda Bermuda National Trust Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute Department of Parks Bermuda St. George's Rotary Club SPCA AgraLiving Institute Bermuda 3D Printing KOOM Consulting

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## **Eco-Schools Support**

The Eco-Schools Bermuda program expresses its gratitude for the unwavering support received from local foundations and donors, and the invaluable time invested by our Delivery Partners in facilitating school projects. With each passing year, the program's momentum gathers pace, and the contributions of our donors play a crucial role in ensuring that schools are provided with the necessary guidance and resources to enable students to participate in sustainable initiatives actively.

Through your support, Eco-Schools Bermuda can continue to foster and nurture the next generation of environmental advocates and student leaders. Your contributions are essential in our mission to create a more sustainable future for Bermuda and the world beyond.

THANK YOU 2022/2023 **AXA XL Bermuda Community** Foundation **Butterfield Bank Centennial Foundation** Garden Club of Bermuda RenRe SiriusPoint Limited **XL** Foundation В Eco-Schools Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institut