

The Westminster School Dubai –
Attn: Dr Vijaya Kumari Sathyan
P.O. Box 27016, Dubai,
UAE



13 June 2025

Re: Green Flag online assessment of The Westminster School Dubai

Dear Ms Viji and Eco Committee at the Westminster School Dubai,

Following your recent onsite Green Flag assessment with Mr Moaz Sawaf, we are pleased to inform you and the rest of the school community that The Westminster School Dubai has been awarded the Green Flag!

We would like to congratulate you, your colleagues, and especially the students at The Westminster School Dubai for all the time and effort that has been invested in environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development. Your award is well deserved and reflects both the hard work, as well as The Westminster School Dubai commitment to sustainability and the Eco-Schools programme. During the assessment it was evident how the Eco Schools programme is students-led and the different groups of Committees show how involved students are in the whole process.

We really appreciate the Exceptional student leadership, the passion and knowledge demonstrated by the eco-committee, the holistic approach with Curriculum integration, community actions and systematic monitoring, and finally the innovation element: prioritisation of “reduce” over “recycle”.

It is clear that Eco-Schools as a concept and a programme has motivated students to engage in whole-school projects to address pressing environmental issues related to the themes and constantly inform the school community. The Westminster School Dubai goes beyond the requirements, with an exemplary commitment to sustainability and an exceptionally motivated eco-committee.

We also would like to thank you for your detailed and comprehensive Green Flag application. We understand the difficulties on passing all the information related to the programme from one coordinator to another, including the natural turnover of staff and students. You have done a very good work collecting evidence, and presenting your whole-school projects.

Finally, we would like to highlight some areas for improvement. Below, we have set out some reflections from our team, as well as requirements and suggestions that should be addressed before your next Green Flag application. Eco-Schools International will keep



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the following on record, and the assessor will be asked to see proof at the next assessment.

Requirements from the online assessment team for your next Green Flag application

1. Organise field trips to natural areas or parks to fortify the connection with biodiversity.
2. Ensure that the whole school is involved in reviewing and creating the Eco Code, not only the Eco Committee.
3. Continue promoting a more interdisciplinary curriculum linkage and more contents of ESD in the curricula.

Recommendations

1. The Eco-Schools programme can be a helpful tool to address eco-anxiety given its positive action and solution driven approach. Consider how to motivate students to join the programme, especially those who express a higher awareness and feelings of despair in relation to ongoing environmental problems.
2. We suggest participating to the Eco Schools global network taking part to our annual Global Action Days Campaign and following our FEE Academy course: Teaching SDGs in the classroom.
3. We recommend the participation with YRE, at least with small groups. Our annual YRE International Competition is without a doubt one of the highlights of the YRE programme! Every year, the most inspiring and creative entries from the National Competitions and International Schools are assessed by an **International Jury** and have the chance of being recognized on a global scale.
4. We strongly believe the Eco-Schools Seven Steps – A Project Based Learning Best Practice course, could offer a good opportunity to strengthen the understanding and implementation of the 7-Steps methodology especially for those teachers new to the programme. We will keep you informed regarding the next availabilities of the course. For more info you can write to reeza@fee.global.
5. If developing the school grounds going forward consider what external support could help with this and how parents/ families could play an active role in the work you do here. Perhaps consider using this as an opportunity to commence the Learning about Ecosystems and Forest programme too. This can bring a sharper focus on collaboration to give holistic EE/ESD experience.

Please note that to retain the school's Green Flag status you will need to apply for your next Green Flag in two years' time.

In the meantime, keep up the good work with your next cycle. We are always at your disposal for feedback and assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Francesca Abeltino
International Coordinator of Education

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