

Education for Sustainable Development
Strategies for the implementation of ESD in schools and the National Curriculum in England

Leszek Iwaskow
Her Majesty's Inspector

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Ofsted
Better education and care

Education for Sustainable Development

“enables people to develop the knowledge, values and skills to participate in decisions about the way we do things individually and collectively, both locally and globally, that will improve the quality of life now without damaging the planet for the future”

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National Curriculum for England

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ENVIRONMENTAL

SOCIAL

ECONOMIC

PRACTICAL CITIZENSHIP

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DfES SD Action Plan

“We have theorised about sustainable development in education for long enough. That is why this is not a strategy but a plan for action. We need to embrace sustainable development across the education system...”

Sustainable development
action plan for Education and Skills

Department for
Education and Skills

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Securing the Future

“ Sustainable development principles must lie at the core of the education system, such that schools, colleges and universities become showcases of sustainable development among the communities that they serve.” 2005



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DfES Five Year Strategy for Children and Learners, 2004

- “Every school should be an environmentally sustainable school, with a good plan for transport that encourages walking or cycling, an active recycling policy (moving from paper to electronic processes wherever possible) and a school garden or other opportunities for children to explore the natural world. Schools must teach out children by example as well as by instruction.”



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“Sustainable development will not just be a subject in the classroom: it will be in its bricks and mortar and the way the school uses and even generates its own power. Our students won’t just be told about sustainable development, they will see and work within it: a living, learning place in which to explore what a sustainable lifestyle means.”



Tony Blair, September 2004



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- The revision of the National Curriculum in 2000 has raised the profile of ESD
- Schools are now asked to secure pupils’ commitment to sustainable development



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- Requirement to teach sustainable development in geography, science, design and technology and citizenship as well as provide opportunities for inclusion across a range of other subjects.



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National Framework for Sustainable Schools



- Care for Oneself
- Care for each other, across cultures, distance and time
- Care for the environment both far and near



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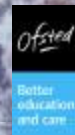
- Many schools and Local Authorities are enthusiastic
- 4,500 schools now registered with Eco-schools
- 8000 Healthy Schools
- 600 International Schools
- 10,000 schools have travel plans
- ESD network building up in most English regions
- New building standards (BREEM)



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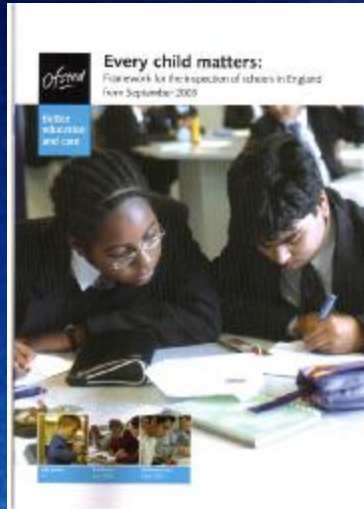
Successful Schools Have:

- A record of experimentation over a number of years
- A whole school commitment, led by senior managers, to integrate ESD into the work of the school. This is more evident in primary schools.



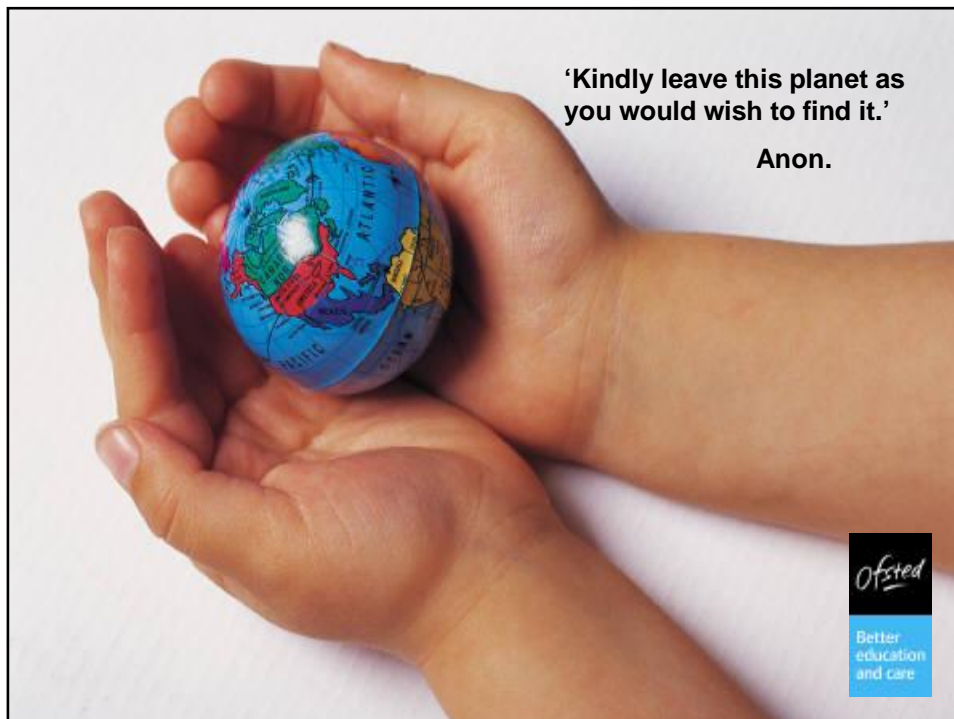
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Ongoing Research/Inspection



- Longitudinal Survey with Reading University – Links between ESD and school improvement
- Focus survey of 40 schools
- Self Evaluation Document

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'Kindly leave this planet as you would wish to find it.'

Anon.

