



Bronze Award



Criterion 4
Circular School
Earth Stewards Code



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The Earth Stewards Whole-School Circular Living Codes are at the heart of a school's journey toward becoming a Circular School. At Bronze level, learners take the lead in shaping simple but powerful codes that guide how the whole school community cares for resources, looks after the planet, and supports each other's wellbeing.

These codes help schools build a shared culture of Earth stewardship—one where learners understand their rights, express their ideas, and take meaningful action. By linking to the Earth Steward characters, the 10Rs of the circular economy, and global goals for sustainability, the codes help learners transform everyday habits into positive climate actions.

Creating the Circular Living Codes is a collaborative, creative, and empowering process. Classes or groups work together to design short, memorable statements that encourage everyone to refuse unnecessary waste, reduce what they use, repair what they can, reuse materials, and rethink old habits. Learners share these messages through posters, assemblies, displays, digital work, or artwork—making sustainability visible and understood across the school.

At Bronze level, the focus is on building learner voice, shared responsibility, and hopeful climate action. Through creating these codes, learners begin to understand that their choices matter, their ideas have power, and their school can make a real difference for people and the planet.



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Linked Pathways

**2. Awareness of Sustainability & Earth
Stewardship**

7. Circular Waste & Materials

**9. Citizenship, Equity & Climate Mental
Health**

UNCRC Links

Article 12: Learners participate in decisions that affect them

Article 13: Learners have the right to share ideas

Article 24: Children have the right to a healthy environment

Article 29: Education must support environmental care

SDG Links

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption & Production
SDG 13 – Climate Action

10Rs Connections

Refuse • Reduce • Reuse • Repair • Rethink
• Repurpose
(Schools may also link to other Rs when appropriate)

Bronze Requirements
At Bronze level, each school
must co-create Whole-
School Circular Living
Codes that help everyone
live more sustainably. These
codes must be:

✓ **Designed by learners**

**Created collaboratively by classes, eco groups, or the Circular
Schools Committee**

Learners propose ideas, vote, and choose wording

✓ **Linked to the Earth Steward characters**

**Each code should connect to at least one Earth Steward value such
as:**

Plasto – reducing plastic

Mini – caring for minerals and materials

Oggie – soil, compost, nature

Aqua – water saving

Turbie & Array – energy awareness

Shatter – glass reuse

Cardie – paper and card

Shelly – oceans

Hope/Harmony/Calm/Serenity – climate wellbeing & kindness

✓ **Shared by learners**

Presented in assemblies, classrooms, or corridor displays

**Learners explain why each code matters (rights-based,
sustainability-based)**

✓ **Aligned with the 10Rs**

**Each code must show a practical “circular” behaviour, such as:
Refusing waste, reducing use, reusing items, repairing objects,
rethinking habits.**

Examples of Learner-Friendly Circular Codes

Waste & Materials

“We reuse before we recycle”
“We think before we throw away”
“We look after our things so they last” (Repair)
“We refuse things we don’t need”

Nature & Grounds

“We respect nature and care for our school grounds”
“We compost our food scraps to help the soil” (Oggie)

Energy & Water

“We save energy because clean air matters” (Turbie & Array)
“We turn the tap off to save our water” (Aqua)

Climate Mental Wellbeing

“We look after each other’s climate feelings”
(Hope/Harmony/Calm/Serenity)

Rights-Based Codes

“We protect Earth’s resources because we have the right to a healthy future (UNCRC 24).”
“We share our ideas to help our planet (UNCRC 13).”

Learner Leadership (Bronze Expectation)

Learners help write the codes

Learners create posters, art, or symbols

Older learners may mentor younger ones to understand the codes

Classes adopt their own age-appropriate versions if helpful

Link Pathways and SDGs:

Linked Pathways: 1, 2, 7, 9

10Rs: Rethink, Reuse, Reduce, Repair

SDGs:

SDG 4.7 – Education for Sustainable Development

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption & Production

SDG 13 – Climate Action

SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Learner Leadership Bronze Requirements:

**Learners hold formal roles (Earth Steward Leaders,
Classroom Circular Champions).**

**Learners co-lead at least two actions (audit, assemblies,
community engagement, 10R project).**

**Learners collect ideas from peers and represent learner
voice on the committee.**

Evidence of learners influencing decision-making.

Evidence Required (Bronze)

✓ Poster or Code Display

Photos of codes displayed in classrooms and corridors

Earth Steward icons or characters included where possible

✓ Learner-Designed Versions

Drawings, posters, digital designs, or hand-written versions

✓ Record of Learner Participation

Brief note showing how learners helped create and share the codes

(Assembly notes, class brainstorm photos, voice notes, etc.)

Bronze Summary (At A One Glance)

- ✓ Learners design circular living codes
- ✓ Codes link clearly to Earth Stewards & the 10Rs
- ✓ Codes shared by learners across the school
- ✓ Rights-based and sustainability-based thinking included
- ✓ Evidence: posters, designs, displays, and participation notes