

Westminster Schools Air Quality checklist

Complete the new schools air quality toolkit, which will help your school work out what your priorities should be to start tackling pollution. You can also search for your school's postcode on the LondonAir map of London, to see what pollution levels are likely to be around your school.



HAVE A SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

Have a school travel plan, and sign up to TfL's STARS programme, which is a travel plan accreditation scheme and has a wide range of free resources for schools. A travel plan will help encourage walking and cycling to school, which will not only reduce pollution caused by car emissions, but help encourage healthier and more active lifestyles for pupils.

GET HEALTHY AND ACTIVE

Take part in Westminster's Daily Mile programme and sign up to the Mayor's Healthy Schools London programme. Both of these projects will encourage healthier lifestyles for pupils, and discourage polluting car journeys to and from school.

SPREAD THE WORD

Schools should already receive pollution alert emails from King's College London. This information can help you as a school to make decisions about outside PE lessons, and help you know when to keep a particular eye out for vulnerable pupils – such as those with asthma. Schools can also get in touch with parents to encourage them to sign up to airTEXT, a free text message and email system that sends out alerts and health advice when pollution is expected to be high.

TACKLE ENGINE IDLING

Get in touch with us for support and materials for running a #Dontbeidle roadshow event at your school.

LEARNING BY DOING

There are many free lesson plans and other resources available online to help you teach pupils of all ages about air pollution within the current school curriculum.

UNDERTAKE YOUR OWN MONITORING

One of our key pledges in our air quality manifesto is to help people better understand pollution levels where they live, work, study and play. There are a number of ways you could monitor pollution: and we are here to help – get in touch with us to find out more:

- Undertake diffusion tube monitoring at fixed points around your school, which will give you a good picture general pollution levels.
- You could also undertake 'backpack monitoring' with pupils, which will allow them to understand how pollution levels differ along their walk to school. We can then help you create localised walking maps to highlight low pollution routes to school.

HELP ELSEWHERE

Take advantage of the wealth of free information and resources that is available for schools to help you improve your local air quality and reduce the exposure of your pupils to pollution.