

HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM MARKING SHEET - SCHOOL GROUNDS

School Name: RUSHBURY CE PRIMARY

School Category: Nursery/Primary

Judge/s name: STAN SEDMAN

Date: 11TH JULY 2014

Quality of School Grounds	Criteria	Max Points	Actual Points
A welcoming entrance with the overall appearance of the grounds demonstrating respect by staff, parents and pupils.	Quality of the permanent landscaping with particular attention to the main entrance(s) to the school to include well maintained grassed areas, shrub borders and trees (if present). Presence of shaded areas for pupils in the summer. Sports fields to be maintained to the appropriate standard for their current use.	25	18
	Cleanliness of school grounds including paths, seats, bins etc.	10	10
Flowers/ Vegetables/ Fruit	Criteria	Max Points	Actual Points
The involvement of pupils (with support from teaching staff / parents / volunteers) in the growing of a range of edible and ornamental plants to include propagation, planting, maintenance and harvesting (edibles) will be taken into account as will the number of pupils involved whether in school clubs or class.	The selection and propagation of plants from seed, cuttings, and division, and the understanding of the methods used and/or the growing on of young plants where no, or limited propagation facilities exist	15	13
	Planting out and quality of maintenance of garden area whether in flower beds, vegetable/fruit areas or in combination. The use of raised beds and planters/pots where appropriate.	15	13
	Quality of the flowers/vegetables/herbs/fruit grown.	15	13
	The use of compost and appropriate, preferably organic, methods of improving fertility and controlling pests.	15	13
	The harvesting and subsequent use of edible crops and/or the collection of seed.	15	15

Sustainability	Criteria	Max Points	Actual Points
<p>Where there is little or no scope for the provision of natural areas in the school grounds then involvement of pupils in an off site local habitat resource will gain marks</p> <p>Innovative ideas having impact on pupils understanding of environmental issues in the school grounds will gain marks</p>	<p>Natural areas Presence of well managed and understood natural habitat(s) created to encourage native plants and wildlife, and habitat(s) in the early stages of creation.</p>	20	20
	<p>Involvement of pupils in practical work within these natural habitats and in the monitoring of species present.</p>	10	10
	<p>Protecting the environment Water conservation <i>(a proportionate amount of water saving facilities/methods both within the school building and in the grounds)</i></p>	10	7
	<p>Composting and peat <i>(the use of well managed compost bins and/or wormeries for recycling organic matter; minimal peat use)</i></p>	10	7
	<p>Recycling <i>(For example: use of recycled materials in the grounds and suitable storage facilities for recyclables.)</i></p>	10	7
Use of Grounds for School Curriculum	Criteria	Max Points	Actual Points
<p>Examples of pupil's work clearly showing the educational uses of the grounds will be sought.</p>	<p>The Outdoor Classroom</p> <p>Demonstrable use of school grounds as an outdoor classroom for fulfilling areas of the core curriculum eg in science, art, maths, english and the environment.</p>	30	30
	Maximum Points Available	200	176
	Award		GOLD

Judges Overall Comments:

A village school whose entrance is right on the side of the road, however they have made sure there is colour. One most impressive thing is that they have adopted the listed telephone box outside and are maintaining it. At the rear are extensive grounds which are being utilised to their full potential in supporting the curriculum. An unrequired part of the sports field has been left to develop into a hay meadow and even in its early days native wildflowers are appearing amidst the grass and clover with butterflies in abundance. Along the bottom of the field is an area of mature woodland which has been developed into the most impressive wildlife area and superb Forest School facility for learning, pleasure and to stimulate the imagination. A volunteer runs the Garden Club and although the garden is small this is most productive with good quality produce. A wormery and compost bins are alongside and the children understood how they work and their use. Because the School holds all activities on a Friday afternoon there is plenty of interchange and on the visit children were collecting produce for the kitchen use and raspberry ice cream was being made for all to enjoy. The weather station, run by the children, provides information for the local parish magazine.

Areas for Development:

Still need a greenhouse.