

## Paper recycling at Kings Langley School

At Kings Langley School, we are ambitious about mitigating the devastating effects of the climate crisis. We want to make a difference, no matter how small it seems in comparison to the global scale of the problem because we know that if more and more people start realising that their actions can make a difference, we will already be one step in the right direction to making this planet hospitable for generations to come.

Our proposal is to implement better paper recycling into our school.



Our plan of action is to station bins in classrooms around the school as well as communal areas such as the sixth form study area and the library. In our library, our librarian is really pushing for paper recycling however as you can see in the image on the right, the make-shift paper bins fill up quickly, resulting in people throwing paper in the general waste bins instead.

Therefore, we are in a position where we need to provide all classrooms with access to a paper recycling bin or in the cases where temporary bins are being used (e.g the library and a small number of classrooms) have bigger bins to cater for paper recycling which will act as a permanent solution.

As well as providing bins for the students to use for paper recycling, we are also going to be giving our paper recycling to the charity Apsley Paper Trail based in Apsley Paper Mill. This decision was made to cut our carbon footprint. We have been in contact with the CEO of Apsley Paper Mill who thinks this is a fabulous idea to reduce our school's carbon footprint, promote recyclability in our school community and to begin our way to recycling other waste, in a more sustainable way. Apsley Paper Mill shares the same ambitions as us at Kings Langley

School: We want to make our world one which is sustainable and something to be proud to leave to the generations to come. We all have an obligation to help preserve the world we live in and like we said before: we know that every person who realises that their contributions to helping with climate change are important, brings us one step closer to being able to save our planet.

Our school currently has a recycling contract with Cupid Green Depot. Going onto the government website we can see that from Cupid Green Depot, our recycling is then sent to Pearce Group in St. Albans, and from there, can even be sent internationally. By working with Apsley Paper Mill our personal carbon footprint in terms of transporting the paper from the school will be reduced if we put this new proposal into motion. The journey from Kings Langley School to Cupid green depot and then to Pearce Group is 17.2 miles. Whereas Apsley paper mill is only 1.6 miles away which would cut our carbon footprint of transport by 90.7%. This is without taking into consideration that some paper can be sent internationally from Pearce Group and so our carbon footprint could be reduced even more.

Apsley Paper Mill recycles all paper on-site, even making new paper or other products that are sold in their shop. This means the paper is not shipped to other places to be processed, especially not internationally.

In terms of us being able to transport the paper to Apsley Paper Mill to reduce our carbon footprint, we have talked to teachers and staff who either drive one of the school's minibuses or drive home in the direction of Apsley Paper Mill. We have enough volunteers to make a rota whereby teachers/staff would only need to complete this journey once every half term.

We have spoken to the premises manager of our school about our plan and she believes it is an extremely promising scheme. The only thing she mentioned was where we would get the

money for the bins from. We need some funding to get the project started so that Kings Langley School can become a more sustainable place.

The bins which we have decided to use are from a company called GreenWarehouse (<https://www.greenwarehouse.co.uk/product-category/combin/>). They are made in the UK to minimise carbon footprint in terms of transport and they are made from 73% recycled content by weight and are 100% recyclable and compostable. The materials that make the bins are also all produced in the UK, further reducing their carbon footprint. Please see some images of the bins on the next page.

In total we will need 65 bins to accommodate every classroom and communal areas/offices. The bins come in packs of 5, where each pack is £39 and so we would need 13 packs in total which would be £507. We are looking to start in the maths classrooms and communal areas which would come to a total of 25 bins, £195 which is how much we would like to receive from the fund if possible.

We would like to thank you, as by funding this initiative, you are helping Kings Langley School to reduce its carbon footprint, improve its recycling and help link the school with the local community.

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