St George's CE Primary Academy, Clun

RESTORING SHROPSHIRE'S VERGES: Case Studies

Grid Reference SO 29946 80641

Establishment of a wildflower mini meadow at the school.

Partners/Funders: Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP), St George's Primary Academy

Costs:

- Free contributions of seeds from RSVP
- Volunteer time
- Free contribution of plants



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RESTORING SHROPSHIRE'S VERGES PROJECT:

Clun Primary School has for many years had involvement in environmental projects.

Following discussion about restoration of verges in Clun in the community's Climate Action Plan the Head, Rebecca Manning invited Janet Cobb from Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP) https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk/restoring-shropshire-road-verges/

and CLUN Climate and Environment Group (CCEG) https://cluntowncouncil.gov.uk/clun-climateand-environment-group representatives to look at the school site.

As a result, the school front lawn has been managed as a wildflower verge since May 2021. There is explanatory signage and funding was found for 2 wooden benches overlooking the site. Anyone passing the school sees the information and site. The "lawn" is mowed by the school contractor in August.

This has been used as evidence for an Eco School Green Flag award received in June 2022 following a range of initiatives in the 2021-22 school year. The school has an Eco committee (the Green Dragons) who drive the green agenda.

There are representatives from each class, staff and governors. In 2021 volunteers from the top class were first involved in planting seeds for plug plants and then planting out plug plants.

The Green Flag was awarded again for 2022-2023. More wildflower seeds were sown on the front lawn, after scraping back the grass to the soil in June 2023. The children also planted some bulbs randomly throughout the front and 4 new fruit trees. Year on year there has been increased numbers of species over summers. The children's work has been publicised in the Clun Chronicle. October 2022



June 2023

Significant change and increase in plant diversity





With thanks to Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP) for the inspiration!

and Shropshire Hills National Landscape Trust for initial funding for RSVP project in Shropshire without which non of this would have happened.

