



SUSTAINABILITY SCHOOLS COMPETITION



LET'S GET OUR ECO-WARRIOR ON!

Help us make a positive impact for our future.

Program Coordinators

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THE PROGRAM



Overview:

The Southern Grampians Shire Council Sustainability Competition has been created to support schools within our Shire tackle issues in the areas of Sustainability and Circular Economy. The competition will provide students the opportunity to submit innovative solutions to current real-world issues affecting our region and will be run from July 2024.

Teams will be required to submit proposals and present their idea to a selection panel, the winning team receiving Council's commitment to fund and implement their project (up to \$20,000).

Who can enter?

The competition will be aimed at years 7 - 10 students at all schools within the Southern Grampians Shire. Each school may submit a total of three project submissions. The winning team will have their project implemented, and all participants will receive special recognition.

Teams will be required to complete the online application form, and have the option to deliver a presentation to a panel at the Presentation Event, or upload a video presentation.

The winning team will work alongside Council, local businesses, industry partners or external agencies where appropriate to implement their project.

Key Dates:

15 July 2024
9:00am
Competition
Commences

20 Sept 2024
4:00pm
Project Submission
Due Date

November 2024
Presentation Event
(lunch)



Terms and Conditions

- School must be based within Southern Grampians Shire boundary.
- Schools may submit a total of three submissions.
- Schools must hold adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, students and public.
- Council will not fund fundraising activities.
- Council will not fund activities / projects that have already started and /or need retrospective funding.
- Council will not fund items that are part of a schools normal operating expenses eg. Salaries, insurances, utilities. Please ask if you are unsure.
- Council will consider ongoing financial requirement for all the ideas as part of the evaluation.
- Submissions will be assessed by an independent panel, and scored against set-criteria. The successful school, and special achievement awards will be presented at the Presentation Event.
- Total project cost may not exceed \$20,000 (exc GST).
- The project implementation needs to be achievable by Council within a 6 to 12 month timeframe.

Responsibilities

TEACHERS

- Teachers will act as the individual school's project facilitators and be the main contact point between the student teams and Council program coordinators.
- Teachers to schedule time in curriculum for students to work on project ideas.
- Teachers will support students to fill out application form with all information requested and submit by due date.
- Teachers and students will be required to attend the Presentation Event (November 2024). Lunch provided.

THE SELECTION PANEL

- The selection panel will be formed by members of Council's Executive Team, Councillors and business partners.
- The selection panel are independent and will not be part of the development process or interact with students while the ideas and submissions are being prepared.

COUNCIL SUPPORT

- Council will provide direct support and direction to schools and student teams through the program coordinators in the process of developing an idea, project plan and business case.
- Council may provide industry contacts, facilitate site visits or provide additional information to teams where appropriate.
- Council will host the Presentation Event (November 2024) for students to deliver their final presentation, and receive prizes. This will include a celebratory lunch for students and teachers.

BUSINESS ADVISORS

Business Advisors will be available on request through Council to provide further support to students in creating their submissions.

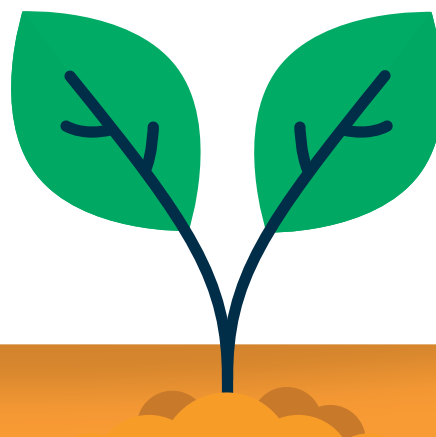


Ideas

Council is committed to the transition to a Circular Economy and Sustainability, therefore the ideas, problems and solutions must address issues related to waste, natural environment, energy, water or sustainability more broadly. Projects should have the ability to be implemented within the Shire.

After selecting an issue or project idea, students are to complete a project plan highlighting:

- What is the issue?
- Why is this an issue?
- Steps to address the issue; and
- How to measure success.



The Presentation

Following submission of their project application, teams will conduct a presentation (no longer than 5 minutes) to the selection panel. The presentation is an opportunity for teams to convince the panel of the value of the project, both to the environment and to residents of the shire.

Students may deliver their presentation in-person, or via video recording at the Presentation Event in November.



Evaluation Criteria

The selection panel will use the following criteria to evaluate each team's entry:

INNOVATION

We want to see creative and innovative solutions!

FEASIBILITY

The project must be cost effective and provide good outcomes for both residents and the environment.

IMPLEMENTATION

The panel must be confident there is enough detail in the submission documents for Council to implement the project correctly.

ALIGNMENT

The project needs to align with Council plans and Visions (which will be provided and summarised).