

Polli:Nation

**St Alban's Church Of England
(Aided) Primary School**

Their journey so far



‘Pollinators are very important for our environment and the state of the world. Polli:Nation gives people the chance to make a difference. Both people and pollinators need more colour in the world.’

Isabella, age 11

Polli:Nation and Gardening Ambassador



Polli:Nation aims to:-

- Effect culture change by engaging and enthusing children and young people to protect pollinating insects;
- Increase the abundance and diversity of pollinating insects in school grounds and local community spaces.



Why?

- To address the decline in the UK's pollinating insects;
- To bridge the gap between children and conservation opportunities;
- To broaden children's understanding of the links between pollination and food security;
- There is a need for more trained data recorders and skilled conservationists in the UK.



How?

- Being one of the successful 260 schools across the UK with a grant of £1100;
- Transforming our school grounds;
- A network of knowledgeable and enthused educators, volunteers and children;
- A generation of Polli:Nation activists;
- Sharing best practice in our school, community and clusters of schools;
- A collaboration, including outside agencies.



What?

- Supportive Senior Management
- Whole school Trailblazer (outdoor learning) links:-
 - 1.Improve feeding and shelter habitats of pollinators through (child initiated) projects in the grounds and local community
 - 2.Increase awareness of Trailblazer/Polli:Nation, including through the use of communication technology/ media
 - 3.Increase uptake of Trailblazer scheme, linking Polli:Nation with the Science Curriculum



What?



- Teachers embedding into their planning
- Polli:Nation Ambassadors
- The Hive/SuperHive leading pupil voice and linking with the School Council and Gardening Clubs
- Recruiting volunteers from the community
- Linking to the RHS award scheme and other partners



1. Engagement and behavioural change

The staff engaged with Polli:Nation



Let pupils
bring staff
on board

Buddy up!

Whole
school
focus days



Talks from
charities to
inform and
inspire

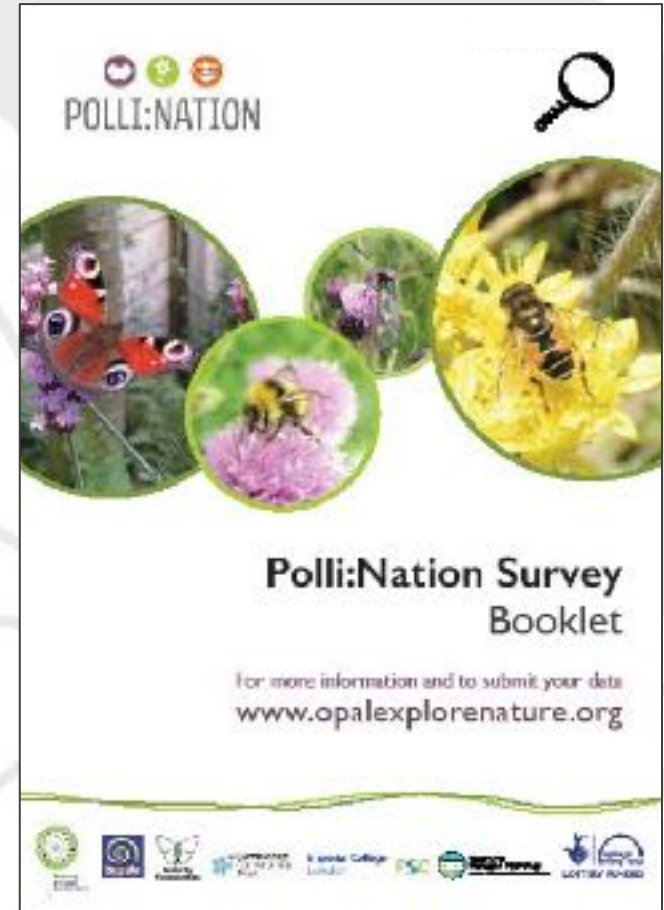
Practical
gardening
support

256 knitted
bees for
identification



2. Identifying and recording the natural heritage

The Children took part in the OPAL survey each year



2. Identifying and recording the natural heritage

Bumblebee Conservation Trust Beewalk in a local cemetery

Monthly recording focusing on bumblebees but identifying other species



3. Conserving and restoring the natural heritage

The £1100 grant provided :-

Nectar – through flowering plants all year;

Shelter – through the use of perennial plants rather than just annuals and a meadow area;

Nesting – in our bee/insect wall

Corridors - through our borders being planted and long grass areas being designated.



Troy loves
solitary bees;
look what he
made with
Grandad!





4. Developing volunteers' skills

St. Alban's C of E Primary School
Front Border Plant Palette Proposal

Emily James
PA, House Landscapes & Horticulture

SHRUBS - Shade



Sansevieria confusa

BULBS - Shade



Anemone nemorosa
'Alba'



Myacanthoides repens



Galanthus nivalis

- An ex student designed a garden for our front border to communicate the message that we value wildlife.

HERBACEOUS - Shade-sun



Ajuga reptans 'Burgundy
Glow'



Bergenia 'Bressingham Ruby'



Dracopis maculophylla



Hosta 'Halcyon'



Clematis 'Jackman's
Blue'



Pulmonaria angustifolia



Adonis vernalis 'Black
Star'



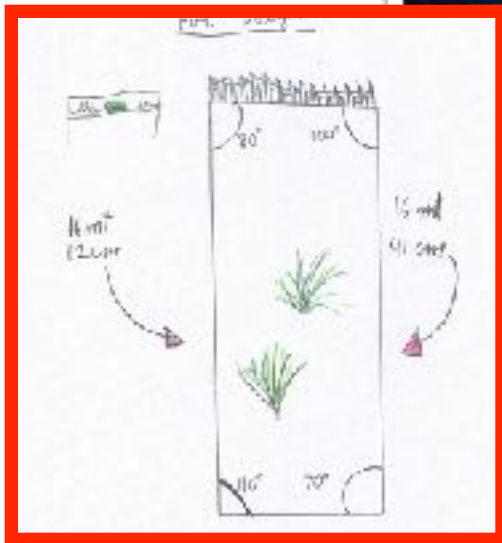


‘Our front border transformed from being bland to welcoming to humans and pollinators. Our new head of year wants us to transform the Year 7 picnic area; we know how to make it pollinator-friendly and beautiful.’

Esther T - Year 6

5. Learning and resources

Polli:Nation linked to the curriculum: Maths



5. Learning and resources

Polli:Nation linked to the curriculum: Art



Polli:Nation
linked to
Science and
Computing

Year 4



Polli:Nation linked to able learners:

Flying High Day - Pollinator Promise Video



‘ It took a lot of hard work producing the video, as we had to plan it and things went wrong. Now our video is more complex and people want to watch it, and like Pfizer, we hope others will join in. It just started with the phrase ‘metre by metre’ and then it expanded - more parents asking, and it went from there.’

Katie-Anne Year 6

Polli:Nation linked to Food Technology



Thank you
bees for
helping us to
grow:

Strawberries
Peas
Beans
Edible flowers
Herbs
Tomatoes



6. Evaluation

We know this has had an impact on children because:

“ Look at the beauty Nanny.
Shall we go the pretty way?
Oh, just look at those pollinators
- the bees like these flowers
Nanny.”

Patrick, Year R

“ Oh, so that’s
why they’ve been
nagging me to
plant stuff in the
garden! ”

Parent



Pollinator patches



February

Dear Pollinator promise team

Our patch is coming on very well thanks. Our summer bulbs have come up, the bees love the lillies. We made a herb planter from an old BBQ and the pond is great for the tadpoles and the newt we found in a bucket at the end of the garden.

We made a bee house at Grandad's house that we've now hung up.

We've really enjoyed looking after our patch and and mummy likes it too!

Love Sam and William xx



June

