



Since 2022, REFUSE is has worked with
106 Waste Warriors in
9 County Durham primary schools
to reduce their school food waste by up to
27% and a total of **4** tonnes per year,
equivalent to **16,982** meals.

IS YOUR SCHOOL UP FOR THE **EAT SMART** CHALLENGE?

Eat Smart is a climate focused educational programme which looks at food waste created in your school, helps children to understand the importance of reducing food waste, and enables the children themselves to make decisions about how to affect change. It is designed to engage pupils in the causes of, and solutions to, food waste, looking at; food miles, carbon footprints, climate change and creative ideas about how to save food waste.

The four-step programme fits into a 6-week half-term and engages with key curriculum skills from Maths, English, Science and Technology, as well as supporting Pupil Voice.
It is led by a team of Waste Warriors (usually 12 to 15 children) and includes:

- 1. Initial food waste audit over the whole school site, conducted by Waste Warriors**
2. Food awareness week including workshops exploring where food comes from and the importance of reducing food waste
- 3. Bespoke action plan to reduce food waste, written by Waste Warriors and staff with contributions from across the school**
4. Second food waste audit to measure the effectiveness of the interventions and highlight any remaining opportunities for waste reduction



For more information, please watch our film www.bit.ly/EatSmartDurhamFilm and
contact engagement@refusedurham.org.uk



REfUSE is excited to have funding to work with **6** new schools during the academic year **2024-5**. There is no charge for schools. Eat Smart requires only the time and enthusiasm of a group of Waste Warriors, a lead adult, and the support of the whole school.

IS YOUR SCHOOL UP FOR THE **EAT SMART** CHALLENGE?

"An extremely valuable project to get our children thinking about the wider world, how we are responsible for the choices we make and how that can affect others."

Shincliffe Primary School

"The Eco Warriors have been so invested in the project. From the very first meeting, they immersed themselves in a drive for change and have thoroughly enjoyed each step!"

Burnside Primary School

"THE INTEREST AND THE ENJOYMENT FROM THE WHOLE SCHOOL WAS AMAZING!"

ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY, BISHOP MIDDLEHAM

"The programme was incredibly well led and organised. Children that wouldn't ordinarily engage with this type of activity did and were very proud of their work. It both empowered them and encouraged them to work independently."

Burnhope Primary School



REfUSE is a Community Interest Company based in Chester-le-Street with a vision to show the value in things, places and people that are unjustly wasted or overlooked.