



DOOLIN NATIONAL SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

We are now onto our third Green Flag which is 'Water'. We are looking at ways we can reduce the amount of water we use in school! Below we have put together a list of ways and ideas in which we all can save water at home too! We hope you find them helpful!

Tips for Parents on Water Conservation!



Kitchen

- Never wash dishes under a running tap. Use the plug in the sink.
- Use a bowl when washing vegetables.
- When filling the kettle, only use as much water as you need.
- Use a dishwasher only for full loads.
- Keep a container of drinking water in the fridge, rather than running the tap for a cool drink. Shake the container before drinking so the water doesn't taste flat.
- Select the proper size pans for cooking.
- Make only the amount of coffee or tea you are going to drink.

Laundry

- Wash only full loads of laundry. Fill your washing machine.
- If buying a new washing machine, make sure to choose a model that uses less water. Ask and you shall receive.
- Don't wash clothes unless they need to be washed.

Bathroom

- Don't fill your bath to the top, halfway will do. Even better take a quick shower instead of a bath. A shower uses about 32 litres. A bath uses as much as 320 litres.
- Plug the sink when washing your hands and face. Save up to 10 litres every time.
- Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth. Save up to 10 litres every time.
- Use a glass of water to rinse your mouth.
- Install a low flow toilet or fit a water saving device in your toilet. You could save up to 25,000 litres annually.
- Dispose of rubbish in the wastebin instead of the toilet. Don't flush unless you have to.
- Use a low flow showerhead.

Plumbing

- Repair leaks promptly. The biggest source of wasted water is often leaking service pipes, taps and cisterns.
- Repair dripping taps. A dripping tap can waste as much as 90 litres a day.
- Insulate your hot water cylinder.
- Insulate hot water pipes. Water is wasted if you turn on a hot water tap and wait for hot water to come out. Insulated pipes will reduce this wastage.

Outside

- Use a bucket of water to wash your car. Washing with a hose will typically use around 300 litres of water - equivalent to around 33 buckets of water.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean the garage, driveway and footpath.

Garden

- Keep the blade on your lawn mower sharp. If you mow with a dull blade, you damage your grass, which means it needs more water.
- Also, raise the blade to at least three inches. Clipped grass requires more water.
- Water the lawn only when it needs it. And be careful. Don't end up watering the wall and footpath as well.
- Never water on a windy, rainy or very hot day.
- Don't leave the children play with the hose or sprinklers.
- Try and grow plants and trees that don't require too much watering.
- Even better. Give them a hand. Use mulch around your plants – to help them retain moisture.

Extended periods of dry weather

- Refrain from washing cars, building facades, paths etc.
- Refrain from watering gardens, shrubs and trees
 - Shrubs and trees will recover from extended periods of draught (grass yellow or brown in colour will recover);
 - Shrubs and trees can be maintained by light watering every 2 or 3 weeks as above use as much mulch to retain moisture.

