Vanguard Learning Trust

Environmental sustainability week, Week beginning Monday 16th November 2026

Vanguard Learning Trust's third environmental sustainability week will take place during the week beginning Monday 16th November 2026. The theme for the week is plastic pollution, in particular the environmental impact of single-use plastics and microplastics. There will be a number of Trust-wide and school-based activities, challenges and quizzes for schools to participate in.

The three objectives, which will be used to plan and evaluate the week, are:

1. to understand the environmental impact of single-use plastics and microplastics on habitats and action being taken to reduce the use of them;
2. to repurpose single-use plastic and promote a reduction in the use of them; and
3. to engage in activities as a community that raise the profile of environmental sustainability, in particular the need to find alternative options to single-use plastics.

Some of the Trust-wide activities that will be taking place include the following:

- Keynote speaker (video)
- Slogan and picture competition
- Daily competitions
- Creation of a Trust environmental sustainability pledge
- Sustainable catering

Some of the school-led activities will include:

- Community litter pick with a focus on single-use plastics
- Planting seeds
- Uniform/costume sales
- Poster competition
- Book swap
- Design technology/science lessons on repurposing single-use plastics
- Geography lessons for Years 7 and 8 on plastic
- Assemblies
- Emission control game (primary only)

There will also be two Model United Nations Conferences (MUNCs) where students will be given the opportunity to represent a country in the role of UN diplomats to debate and solve global issues. There will be one conference for key stages 3 and 4, and the other for key stages 4 and 5. The motions they debate will be based on the week's theme of plastic pollution.