

Whitehorse school incursion and workshop topics

This list of topics has been developed to target school's participating in Resource Smart Schools or are wanting to implement waste wise actions in their school.

Bookings can be made through our education contractor Chooktopia via support@chooktopia.com.au or by calling 0484 258 692.

Topic	Description
Waste Audit	<p>A hands-on activity where students collect a day's rubbish from the class and participate in sorting activities. Students help sort rubbish by different waste types and learn skills such as weighing and calculating volume. Students participate in a planning activity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Reduce waste generated, and B) Plan and implement recycling and composting activities to reduce residual waste to landfill. <p>Schools are required to complete a follow up audit to show the results of their activities and report the data from both audits to Council.</p> <p>Time length for a single class is 60 to 90 minutes. Time length for a whole year level combined is 2 hours.</p> <p>It is recommended to have an undercover area outdoors to complete the audit.</p>
Litter audit	<p>Students participate in a litter audit around the school. Through the audit they will identify litter hotspots, most littered items, litter volume or weight and discuss the impacts of litter on the natural and built environment.</p> <p>Students then plan litter reduction activities to embed in the school. Activities can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretive signage • Peer to peer education • Drains to the bay stencil rollout (Council approval required) • Create and implement a litter plan • Design and implement a litter prevention project • Community engagement activities • Drama or art project to raise awareness <p>Session 1 to 2 hours depending on age group.</p>
Food audit and starting a compost	<p>Prior to the incursion, students participate in a 'food log' of all the food waste the class or year level generates.</p> <p>At the incursion, students participate in a waste audit to ground proof the actual food waste generated. Students then learn about the different composting options for different food types</p>

	<p>and participate in planning a compost system that will address the class or school's food waste. Session length 90 minutes.</p>
Embedding sustainability	<p>Sustainability should not rest on the shoulders of one individual. This session can be run either as a teacher PD or as a session for students on setting up and embedding sustainability in the school through student leadership activities such as a green team. Session length varies by year level – 60 to 90 minutes average.</p>
Circular economy	<p>What is the circular economy? This session explores the bigger picture of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and how your school can adopt a circular economy from purchasing to disposal. This session can focus on one of the following areas depending on your school goals and interests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food, nude food, litter • Recycling right • Whole of life – purchasing to disposal (also known as cradle to grave) <p>Session length is determined by year level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary school 60 minutes • Secondary school 90 minutes <p>Schools can also be referred to the Rethink centre for a recycling tour. Please contact council to arrange, limited tours are available.</p>
Kids teaching kids	<p>Select a topic from the list below. Students learn the fundamentals of the topic for the first half of the session, then workshop a peer-to-peer project during a facilitated session to devise a way to educate other students on the topic. Suggested topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling right • Managing food waste • Litter – what's the problem? • Nude food ain't rude! <p>Education activities students can develop include activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write and act out a play at assembly • Develop posters or interpretive signage • Run mini education sessions for other classes