



**nature hero
awards**

Schools making a home for nature

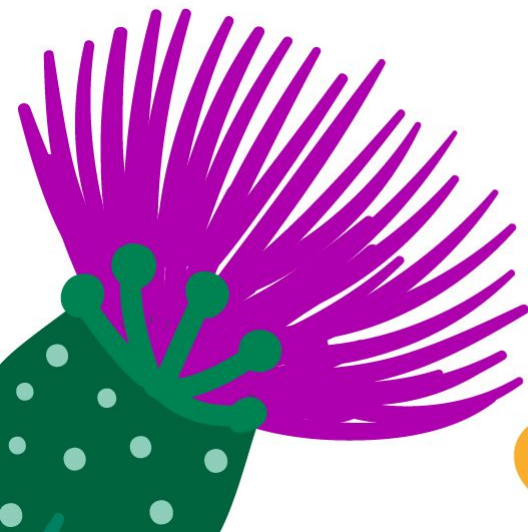
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NHA 2026/27 Submission Form



Introduction

This is the form to record all your actions for the Nature Hero Awards. You will be submitting this with a simple video walkthrough of your school/place of learning (please see the [video guidelines](#) in the NHA Guide Booklet).

This form should be read with the **NHA Guide Booklet**, which contains help with each action listed, as well as full instructions for the programme.

We will host **training webinars** for educators to help you on your Hero's journey (schedule will be announced by email), along with a dedicated Nature Heroes Coordinator who can be reached via: natureheroawards@biodiversityinschools.com

AI should not be used in this form, thank you.

Overview

Creating Plans

Complete all.

1. School habitat map (20pts)

Creating Habitats

Complete at least 6 of 13.

- 1. Bug hotels (5pts)**
- 2. Solitary bee sites (5pts)**
- 3. Low-mow meadows (10pts)**
- 4. Superhero species (5pts)**
- 5. Native woodlands (10pts)**
- 6. Native hedgerows (10pts)**
- 7. Water worlds (10pts)**
- 8. Bird boxes (5pts)**
- 9. Bird care stations (5pts)**
- 10. Bat boxes (5pts)**
- 11. Dead hedges (5pts)**
- 12. Biod. in small/urban schools (5pts)**
- 13. Control of invasive species (5pts)**

Creating Heroes

Complete at least 1, 2 & 3.

- 1. Outdoor learning space (10pts)**
- 2. Indoor learning (10pts)**
- 3. Communication (10pts)**
- 4. Community (5pts)**
- 5. Buddy School (5 pts)**
- 6. Other actions (10pts)**

Your details

School Name: County:

Pre-school/Primary/Secondary/

Homeschool/Special school:

Name & Position Coordinating Person:

Contact details of Coordinating Person:

Number of students on Nature Heroes team:

Any previous Nature Hero Award received?

Creating Plans

1. School habitat map **(20pts)**

Insert picture(s) here

Note: Check out our handy Action Planner (p27).

Creating Habitats

1. Bug Hotels (5 pts) - (including small constructed bee homes)

Number, approx. size (large/small):

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

2. Solitary Bee Sites (5 pts) - (*Habitats e.g. bee banks, bee scrapes, does **not** include 'built' options*)

Number, type/description:

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(Please read the Guide carefully for this section)

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

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3. Low-Mow Meadow (10 pts) - *(grassy habitat, cut at least once a year, many species)*

Size of Low-mow Meadow:

sq m

How often is your meadow cut/describe the mowing plan?

Flowers / pollinator species found:

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

4. Superhero Species (5 pts)

Please see our Guide for information on ivy, nettles, brambles, dandelions, thistles & other overlooked species.

Species found:

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

5. Native Woodlands (10 pts)

Number of mature trees:

New trees planted within last 5 years (number/type)? Dense woodland habitat or widely spaced? (*See Miyawaki method*)

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

6. Native Hedgerows (10 pts) - (*beech, laurel are non-native species*)

Length of mature hedgerow habitat: metres

Main tree/shrub species:

Length of new hedgerow: metres

Species planted:

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

7. Water Worlds (10 pts)

Briefly, what type of water world do you have, and does it have elements not visible in your walkthrough video? (20 words max)

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

8. Bird Boxes **(5 pts)**

Number of 'old' bird boxes (already installed):

Number of bird boxes added this year:

Student involvement & nature education benefit, and any nesting activity noted (60 words max):

9. Bird Care Stations (5 pts)

Total number of bird care stations (food + water; see Guide):

Types of birds seen (at station or elsewhere on grounds):

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

10. Bat Boxes **(5 pts)**

Number of 'old' bat boxes (already installed):

Number of bat boxes added this year:

Student involvement & nature education benefit, and any bat activity noted (60 words max):

11. Dead Hedges (5 pts) - *(human-made, i.e. introduced to the grounds, not part of hedgerow that died)*

Total length:

metres

Notes, student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

12. Biodiversity in small/urban schools (5 pts) - (*not applicable* to those with large grounds)

Have you managed to creatively rewild a small area/'hard' space (concrete/tarmac) for the benefit of nature and people? (50 words max)

Student involvement & nature education benefit (50 words max):

Note: Be sure to include this space in your video walk-through.

13. Control of invasive species (5 pts) - *(see Guide Booklet for list)*

Have you noted any invasive plant species on the school grounds? Give details.

Has a discussion started with management/is there a control plan around these?

Creating Heroes

1. Outdoor Learning Space (10pts)

Do your students regularly get to learn outdoors? Explain how your students spend time outdoors in a dedicated space (eg: outdoor classroom, school garden, etc.) (100 words max):

2. Indoor Learning (10pts)

How do you bring nature education inside the classroom? Explain your use of nature tables/boards in the classrooms, or other indoor nature-focused classroom activities (100 words max):

3. Communication (10pts)

How do you communicate your work to parents, other classes and the community? (100 words max):

4. Community **(5pts)**

Did you engage with local community members, groups or spaces for the benefit of biodiversity and nature education? This does not include national organisations (100 words max):

5. Buddy School **(5 pts)**

Try to get another school involved! Note the name of the school you are working with, and any joint projects or activities you might have done together.

Name of school:

Nature projects/activities:

6. Other Actions **(10pts)**

Did your students, or the school community, undertake any other actions to help the environment not mentioned previously, eg: litter picking, reducing plastic usage, composting, water harvesting, research projects, etc. **(200 words max):**

Thank you

Please note that use of peat-compost, or use of sprays such as herbicide or other pesticides are **strictly prohibited** and will result in exclusion from the programme. Use of these products would undermine all your other biodiversity actions (see the Guide for more information).

Well done on completing the form! You're almost there. To save you time we are asking for a very simple, basic **walkthrough video** of your school grounds to show us your work (a limited number of pictures can also be included in this form if desired). Please see the Guide Booklet for steps on making your video.

Thank you so much for all your work :)

OPTIONAL: Submit up to 12 photos of your work here.

Insert picture(s) here

Appendix II: Action Planner

OPTIONAL: Use the organiser below to plan when you will undertake certain parts of the programme. Print out, or edit the slide as desired (**right click** the boxes to see the check mark option, in Google Slides)

I: Plans	Date/s	✓	II: Habitats	Date/s	✓	II: Habitats (ctd)	Date/s	✓	III: Heroes	Date/s	✓
School Habitat Map		☐	Bug Hotels		☐	Bird Boxes		☐	Outdoor Learning		☐
Plan the year		☐	Solitary Bee Sites		☐	Bird care station		☐	Indoor Learning		☐
Take video		☐	Low-mow meadows		☐	Bat boxes		☐	Community		☐
Submit all files		☐	Superhero Species		☐	Dead hedges		☐	Community		☐
			Native Woodlands		☐	Small/urban space		☐	Buddy School		☐
			Native Hedgerow		☐	Control of invasive species		☐	Other actions		☐
			Water Worlds		☐						