



Impact Report

September 2023 - July 2024

Executive Summary

During the academic year 2023 to 2024, the Ministry of Eco Education, made up of 4 part time staff, supported changes to green the curriculum for more than 300,000 teachers across 11,000 education establishments, from early years to college. This was in addition to facilitating reflection on education for sustainability.

The Ministry of Eco Education curates the resources and opportunities from more than 200 organisations into a framework inspired by Dale Vince's vision for a green Britain. MEE saves teachers time and energy to integrate the very best of sustainability across their existing curriculum. The Ministry of Eco Education guides learning journeys using big questions framed across 7 key themes.

The Ministry of Eco Education provided training for more than 10,000 teachers across in person and online formats, including our own events such as the Eco Ed series and national events such as the National Education Union Annual Conference.

The Ministry of Eco Education created 80 videos for Youtube totalling more than 18 hours of content, sharing best practice and helping communicate academic research about sustainability with teachers.

Through in person and online events, the Ministry of Eco Education has brought together 1,000s of people with passion and enthusiasm to create a green education system.

The Ministry of Eco Education created more than 70 bridging documents for regions across the UK, including all London Boroughs, and local authorities including Somerset, Hampshire and Kent. These bridging documents connect the MEE framework with local examples of sustainability, and support teachers to localise education for sustainability.

Our Vision

A green education system with sustainability at its core.

Our Mission

To support teachers to integrate sustainability across their curriculum.

Our Goals

- ☐ **Inspire and motivate educators to integrate sustainability into their teaching.**
- ☐ **Curate the best resources that save teachers time and energy in implementing environmental education.**
- ☐ **Promote environmental education initiatives or opportunities from external organisations.**
- ☐ **Offer professional development and disseminate the latest academic research on environmental education.**
- ☐ **Foster partnerships between schools and local communities to support sustainability efforts.**
- ☐ **Encourage collaboration among educators, schools, and organisations within the environmental education landscape.**
- ☐ **Connect classroom learning with real-world environmental issues and solutions.**
- ☐ **Share the vision for a Green Britain and advocate for a sustainable future.**
- ☐ **Facilitate community and action through a growing network of Activators**
- ☐ **Support young people to take action and become agents of change.**

Key Impacts

Inspiration & Confidence

Our activities inspire teachers to integrate sustainability across their existing curriculum, making use of the rich tapestry of resources available from 100's of organisations. MEE events are dynamic and interactive, providing a refreshing perspective and energy to education for sustainability. The 'Ask an Expert' online video series is an example of activities which build teacher confidence and develop knowledge and understanding.

Communication & Action

MEE makes use of social media and video content to communicate best practice between teachers and share news of exciting campaigns. Regular newsletters, social media groups and email communication creates a wider sense of community. Through the Ministry of Eco Education framework, teachers take action to change how and what they teach. Whilst young people are provided with opportunities to be active citizens through alternative classroom activities.

Collaboration & Connection

The Ministry of Eco Education continues to galvanise a broad community of educators, practitioners, organisations, businesses and politicians with a vision for a green Britain. MEE works with a wide variety of university academics to disseminate their research as well as integrate this into the MEE approach. The MEE framework provides young people with increased opportunities to connect with the rest of nature.

Supported by

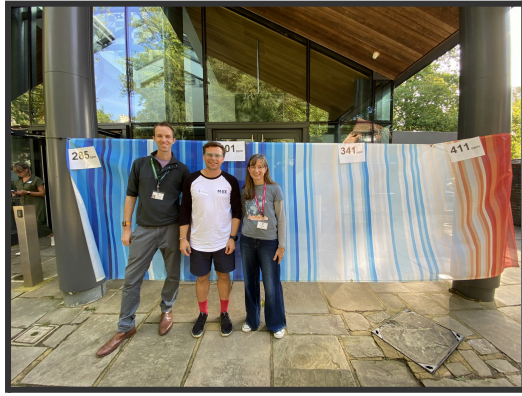


**THE GREEN BRITAIN
FOUNDATION**

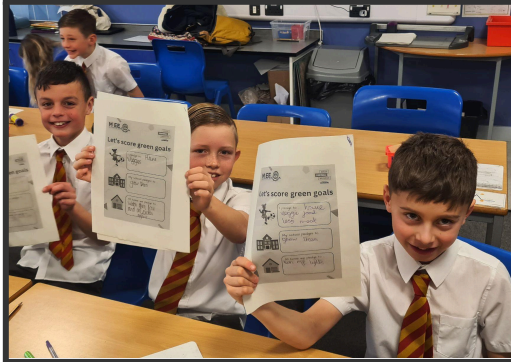




Froxfield Primary School, Hampshire



Hampshire School Eco Conference



Green Football Weekend Live Lesson



Teach the Teacher, Bristol



National Education Union Conference, Bournemouth



Podcast Recording, Somerset



North Yorkshire National Park



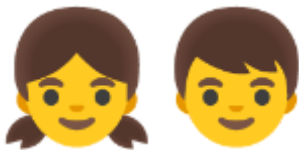
Hackney, London

Key Statistics



11,185

Schools &
Colleges



4,588,540

Young People



308,270

Teachers



64

Big Questions



712

Lessons



200+

Partner
Organisations



80

Supporting
Videos



1,000,000

Social Media
Impressions

Key Activities

Team

The Ministry of Eco Education is structured in two tiers with Helen Taylor, Dahlia Nahome and Dale Vince overseeing a delivery team led by Education Lead, Paul Turner. The delivery team is made up of Tom Walmsley, with responsibility for the South West, Nirvana Yarger - London, and Meryl Batchelder - the North. Tanwen Morgan joined the team for 3 months to support the completion of big questions with a focus on key stage 3.



Tom

(Facilitator)

Paul

Meryl

Nirvana

Schools Summary

	MEE	% of England
Total College	182	81%
Total Primary	8,923	53%
Total Secondary	1,889	55%
Total Nursery	191	50%
Total Schools	11,185	54%
Total no of Teachers	308,270	49%
Total no of Young People	4,239,954	41%
MEE Average FSM	25.1%	
UK Average	24.6%	

Building on progress in previous years, more than 11,000 schools now have access to the Ministry of Eco Education framework and support. Due to the devolved nature of education in the UK, MEE's focus is on education establishments in England.

For schools engaged with MEE, the largest number of schools by type is "Primary" whilst the largest proportion of schools is "Colleges". The Ministry of Eco Education has now reached 54% of educational establishments in England.

MEE is proud of reaching schools in areas of deprivation, with higher levels of Free School Meals. MEE schools have an average of 25.1% FSM compared to the UK average of 24.6%.

Nature of Impact in Schools

Integrating sustainability across the curriculum is a journey and as a result teachers make use of Ministry of Eco Education support through a variety of ways, depending on a teacher's position within their school, the level of support from the senior leadership and the extent of their own knowledge and understanding.

Some teachers use MEE;

- As part of a drop down day
- As one off lessons
- Using whole series of lessons
- As general inspiration

Some teachers use MEE with;

- One class
- One year group
- A whole subject
- The whole school

Depending on the school, the person who leads on engaging with MEE support is;

- A classroom teacher
- A subject lead
- A year group lead
- Learning support
- Part of senior leadership

MEE Framework & Approach

Inspired by Dale Vince's vision for a green Britain, the MEE framework uses 7 key themes to explore ideas of sustainability. Transport, Energy, Food, Nature, Society, Waste, Water. These themes are prioritised by their impact on nature with Energy, Transport and Food making up 80% of our carbon emissions and impact on the planet.

In previous year's the focus has been to develop curriculum support for primary schools, this year MEE has shifted focus to key stage 3 and secondary schools. MEE now has;

Key Stage	No. of Big Questions
EYFS	5
KS1	15
KS2	19
KS3	25

The MEE curriculum reframes the national curriculum around an environmental lens. Big questions each frame a series of 8 lessons which bring together the resources from multiple organisations, creating learning journey's which explore the climate and nature crisis with a positive action orientated approach. Learning journeys for primary schools follow a cross curricular approach and encourage teachers to explore the interconnected nature of subject areas and the world itself. At key stage 3, learning journeys bring together two contrasting subjects and provide a framework for them to both explore the big question in parallel from their own subject expertise. This innovative approach means MEE continues to encourage cross curricular and systems thinking at key stage 3.

Available via our website, YouTube channel, social media and hosted on Zoom, the support the Ministry of Eco Education provides falls into a variety of key areas;

- Big Questions
- Curated Resources
- Live Lessons
- 5 Step Journey
- Zoom Online CPD
- Micro CPD Videos
- One to One Support
- In Person Training

Support is flexible and teachers have the freedom to use as much or as little as is appropriate for their setting. MEE provides lesson inspiration, suggested questions or whole learning journeys and progression through a young person's education. The flexibility of MEE continues to be a strength as it allows the provision to be appropriate for all settings, there is always something for any teacher no matter where they are on their journey.

Online Training

During the academic year 2023-24, MEE took part in 20 online events directly training educators. This includes 3 online events for educators in further education as part of a group of London Colleges and Adult Education Centres led by Morley College. MEE has repeatedly hosted bespoke training for educators with local authorities including Hampshire, Portsmouth and London. MEE has also presented at online events with organisations such as the Foundation for Education Development, UK School Sustainability Network and Let's Go Zero. MEE has provided monthly dynamic and interactive CPD sessions for teaching staff in the Bristol area including guest speakers.

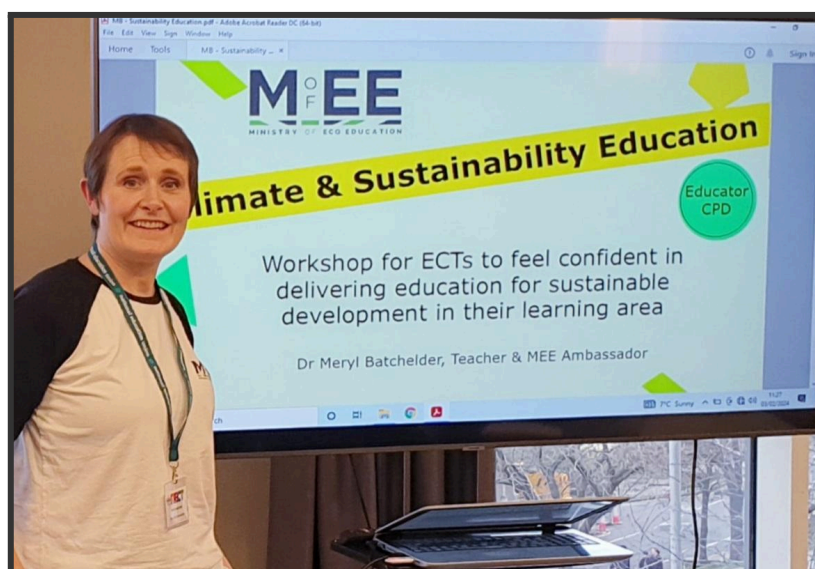
In person Training

During the academic year 2023-24, MEE took part in 50 in person events including Green Rep Training for the National Education Union at an event in Nottingham. MEE provided training for primary school teachers in conjunction with Bristol Sports community trust scheme, attended by eco-leads and head teachers at Ashton Gate stadium. MEE regularly provided in person training for staff across academy trusts.



Educator training at Ashton Gate, Bristol

Throughout the year MEE has provided teacher training with BERA (British Educational Research Association) Education for Environmental Sustainability SIG as part of Climate and Sustainability Education in Northumberland. As well as the NEU Northern Conference - Workshop for Early Career Teachers and the Association of School and College Leaders conference, MEE co-hosted a workshop with Rachel Manning and Julie Rowlandson on Education for climate and environmental sustainability.



In Person Training for Early Careers Teachers





Julie Rowlandson, Meryl Batchelder and Rachel Manning



Interactive climate lessons at TLT Summer BBQ at Belmont Estate, Bristol

Online Events

MEE hosted a variety of other online events including panel discussions and book launches, events which help to stir discussion around education for sustainability. One panel discussion focussed on the role of 'Activism in Schools' attended by more than 100 people including a panel of educators, academics and young people.

We worked with English teachers to host a Sustainability TeachMeet providing teachers and academics with a platform to share teaching ideas linking sustainability with the sustainability curriculum. The event was attended by more than 100 teachers and has been watched by 100's more via youtube.

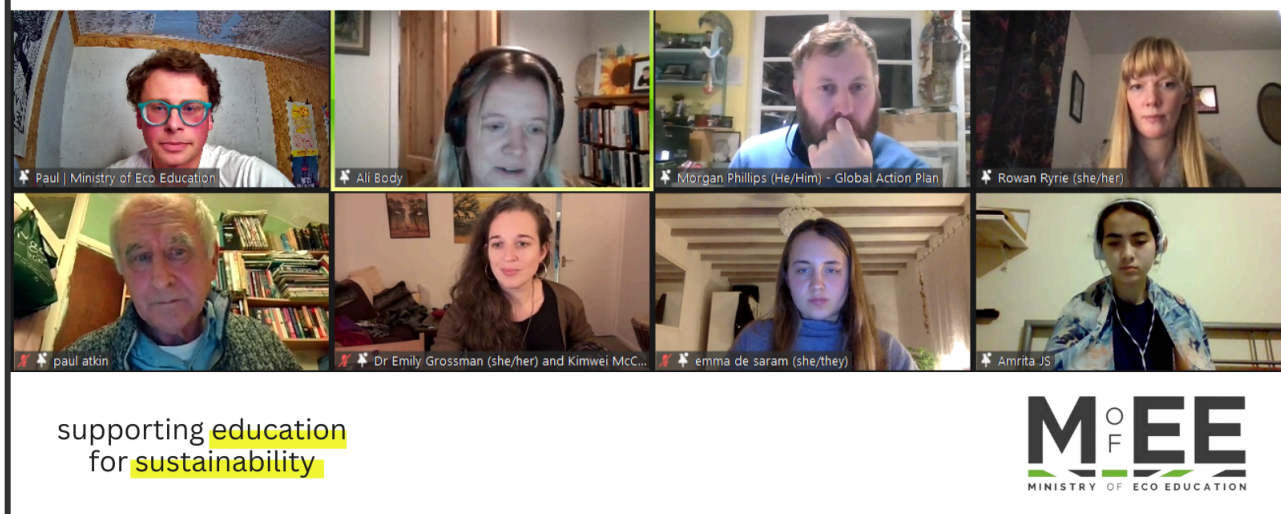
For the Green Football Weekend, MEE hosted a live lesson from the Forest Green Rovers stadium. The live lesson was attended by 50 schools from across the country. To accompany the live lesson, MEE created a workbook linking the national curriculum with the MEE framework. Videos sharing a variety of sustainable aspects of the football club were incorporated into the session and have since been posted on youtube as a resource for continued use.



Green Football Weekend Live Lesson from Forest Green Rovers

Panel Discussion

Activism in Schools



Panel for Activism in Schools

Festivals and Conferences

Throughout the year MEE attended a variety of festivals and conferences in the sustainability and education space. MEE hosted an interactive stall at the National Education Union Conference in Bournemouth providing the opportunity to share success stories from teachers as part of a social media series.

MEE Eco Ed Events

Over the year, MEE organised and supported three Eco Ed dynamic networking and skills building events for teachers and educators. Building on previous events called 'Climate Teacher Gatherings'. The Eco Ed events include;

- Eco Ed North East in Newcastle University
- Eco Ed South West on the Belmont Estate in Bristol
- Eco Ed Teesside in the Net Zero Industry Innovation Centre, Tees Valley University

The events are an opportunity to bring together educators, practitioners, charities, businesses, academics and campaigners. The Eco Ed events are the Ministry of Eco Education brought to life. The events are organised in a collaborative and interactive format and free for attendees.



Attendees at the Eco Ed North East event in Newcastle



Examples of feedback from delegates from the Eco Ed events:

- “Such a rich programme, well managed so that every contribution was impactful.”
- “The chance to network, the variety of speakers and of course the brownies! The setting was amazing. The frequent breaks and chances to chat were really valuable.”
- “A fabulous energy - the day was popping with ideas delivered in a collaborative and thought-provoking setting.”

Comment from a presenter:

- “Well coordinated event with great energy, enthusiasm and optimism. Warm and welcoming organiser, good and varied content, great group of people in attendance, good for networking, finding synergies and spreading the word about the work we do.”



Workshop during Eco Ed North East

Ryevitalise Learning Through Landscapes

This event was in the North Yorkshire National Park which had an aim of “Linking Landscapes to Your Curriculum”. The MEE session encouraged delegates to consider how they can embed climate and sustainability across the curriculum and gave them an opportunity to think about supporting their students to take action based on their learning to become ‘agents of change’ in their region. The feedback we received from the organisers was very positive:

“The Ministry of Eco Education / you were mentioned several times as a highlight of the day or favourite workshop, along with the quote “Ministry of Eco Education was inspirational”, and in response to the question around how attendees would apply their learning, contacting the Ministry of Eco Education and accessing your resources was stated on multiple occasions.”

Durham Miners’ Gala

MEE ran a stall at the Durham Miners Gala on the 13th July. The NEU were well represented and there were a lot of teachers attending over the day so we made several new contacts.

Vegan Campout

MEE presented two workshops in the Family area of the Vegan Campout, which was held on the weekend of the 27th - 28th of July. 'Who has the Power?', a discussion-based workshop aimed at adolescents, encouraged six young people between the ages of 10 and 18 to consider issues linked to intersectionality within sustainability. The alternative milk tasting workshop was open to children of all ages and their parents. We shared information about the environmental impact of a selection of plant-based milks, such as the amount of CO₂, water and land used to create one litre. Children were then encouraged to taste each milk and vote on which one they liked best for both themselves and the planet. Both sessions were aimed at empowering young people to feel ownership over the choices they are capable of making, and showing them that they can make a positive impact on the environment at a young age.

EarthFest

As part of a London wide sustainability event, three of the MEE team met in Central London (arriving on foot, by bike and by skateboard) to run workshops for 5 schools. During the workshops MEE connected with teachers to upskill and boost their confidence, one teacher said they found MEE resources “quick to understand and a good boost to their sustainability journey in the classroom”.



EarthFest in Kings Cross, London.

Our Earth: Our Future

MEE helped to design and deliver a two day event in Bristol to empower teachers and the students to raise the bar for sustainability in more than 30 schools. The event was launched with a keynote speech in which we hosted a panel of teachers and young people followed by CPD sessions for teachers in a breakout room for 25 teachers.



WOMAD

The Live Climate Lesson was presented on the Ecotricity Stage on Sunday 28th July. There were guest appearances from Professor Sylvia Knight, Head of Education for the Royal Meteorological Society and Dale Vince. The interactive 75 minute session explored a range of MEE big questions and challenged misconceptions.



Change Now Conference

MEE took part in the Change Now 2024 conference in Paris, engaging in a panel discussion with representatives from education charities from across Europe including Koen Timmers and Climate Fresk. The event recognised MEE's impact and was an opportunity to share experience with fellow educators.



Panel Discussion at Change Now in Paris



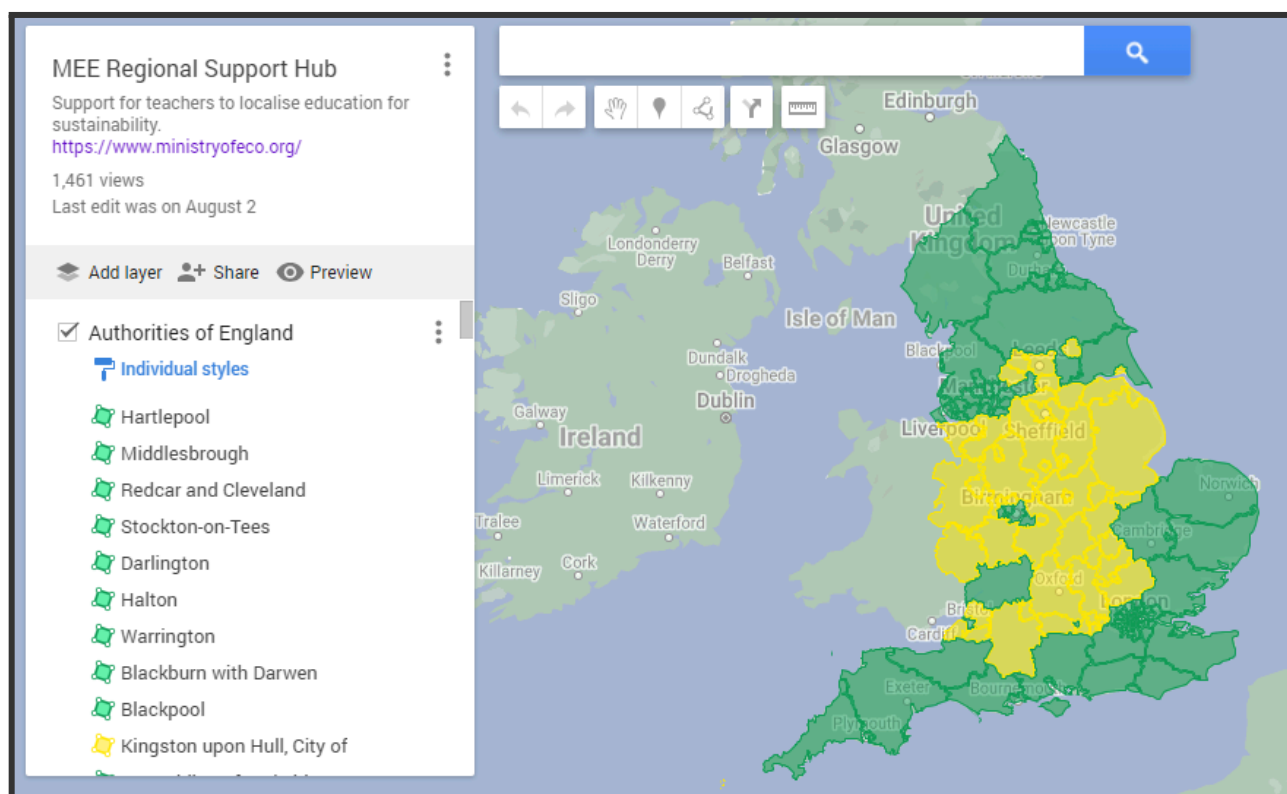
TLT Summer BBQ at Belmont Estate

Local Authority Bridging Documents

This year saw increased collaboration with the creation of more than 70 'bridging documents' with Local Authorities. These crowd sourced documents connect the MEE

framework with local examples of sustainability. These documents have created tangible links with local communities and provide a localisation of the more general MEE framework and curated resources.


To help educators access the regional support, we created the 'Regional Support Hub Map', an interactive online map which has been accessed nearly 1,500 times.





Interactive Regional Support Hub Map

Creating Bespoke Teaching Resources

As with previous years, MEE created the teaching resources to accompany the Great Big Green Week hosted by the Climate Coalition. These resources linked the MEE framework with the aims of the Great Big Green Week of 'Let's Swap Together for Good'. The resources provided a doorway for more schools to be introduced to the MEE approach.



Great Big Green Week 2024

Let's swap together for good

SECONDARY SCHOOL PACK

This document contains guidelines and accompanying notes to the Secondary School Presentation Deck which [can be found here](#).

Suggested learning objectives	Suggested curriculum links
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore how some people have more of an impact on the planet compared to others • To explore how barriers exist for some people stopping them from doing the sustainable thing • To investigate the potential of collaboration and collective action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics • RSHE • Citizenship • Geography

Screenshot from Great Big Green Week resources

MEE also created the KS3 assembly materials for the Climate Action Countdown, a month of school actions coordinated by Let's Go Zero. The focus of the assembly was on affecting change in society.



The screenshot displays a 3x4 grid of 12 slides from the Climate Action Countdown Assembly. The slides include:

- Slide 1:** Title slide for 'THE CLIMATE ACTION COUNTDOWN 2024' with dates '2 JUNE - 1 JULY' and logos for ZER and MEE.
- Slide 2:** A timeline diagram showing the progression from 'Present' to 'Future'.
- Slide 3:** A landscape illustration with a house, trees, and a sun.
- Slide 4:** A circular diagram titled 'OR' showing two different paths or actions.
- Slide 5:** A diagram titled 'HOW DOES CHANGE HAPPEN?' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change.
- Slide 6:** A diagram titled 'CHANGE' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change, with 'Status quo' labels.
- Slide 7:** A diagram titled 'CHANGE' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change, with 'Individual change' and 'Status quo' labels.
- Slide 8:** A diagram titled 'CHANGE' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change, with 'Individual change', 'Collective change', and 'Status quo' labels.
- Slide 9:** A diagram titled 'CHANGE' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change, with 'Individual change', 'Collective change', and 'System change' labels.
- Slide 10:** A diagram titled 'CHANGE' showing the flow from Individual to Collective to System change, with 'Individual change', 'Collective change', and 'System replacement' labels.
- Slide 11:** A quote by Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
- Slide 12:** A slide titled 'A MONTH OF ACTION' with logos for ZER and MEE.

Screenshot of slides from Climate Action Countdown Assembly

Youtube Channel

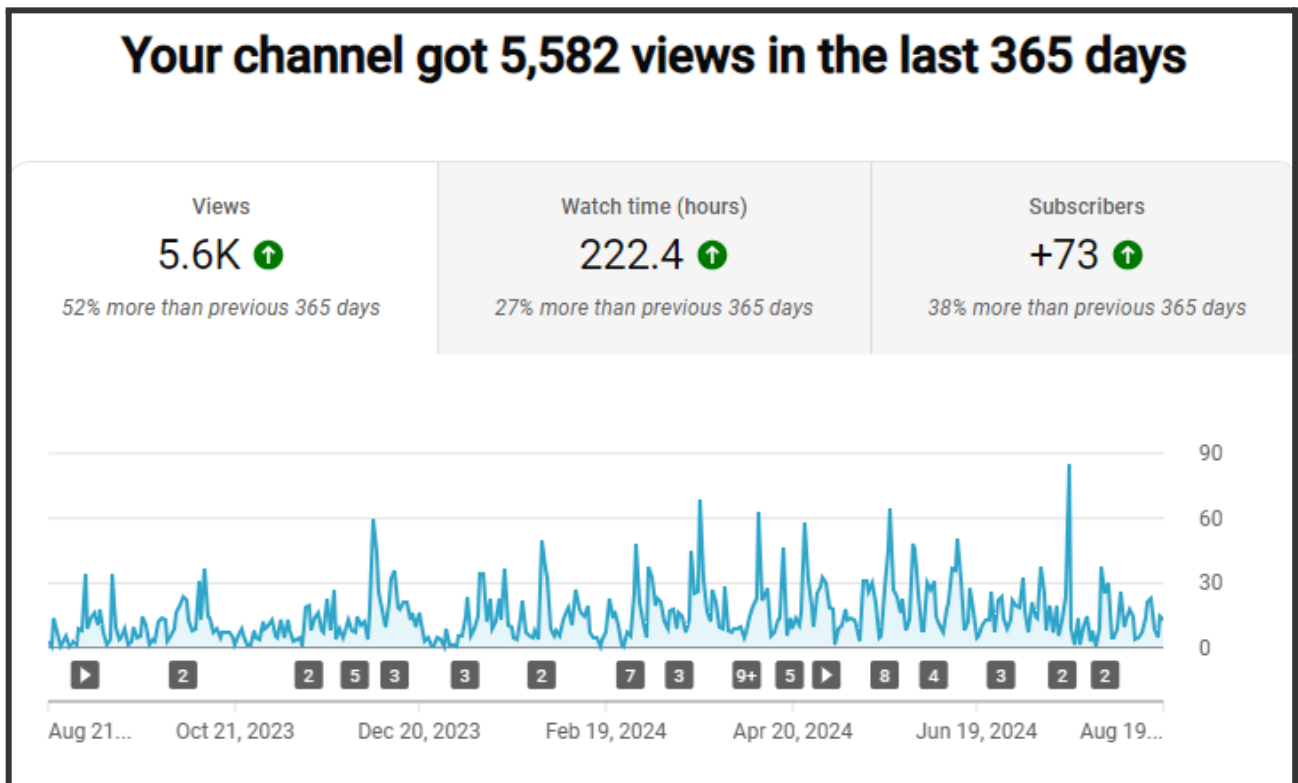
Video content continues to be an invaluable tool to communicate key ideas and disseminate. The main series on our channel this year has been a series of interviews called Ask An Expert. These series drew on our wide ranging connections across the sector from professors in academia to activists. They all inspired teachers in short 10 to 15 minute interviews with one of our team members. Most were carried out on Zoom, some live from COP 29 and some from woodland walks.



Intro reel from 'Ask an Expert' series



Screenshot from 'Climate Calls' series



Screenshot of Key Youtube Stats

Social Media

Social media continues to be an important tool to communicate our impact and engage with the wider community of educators. X has seen highest engagement whilst Instagram has been a platform we have focussed attention on building an audience. Shared posts on Instagram appear to be an effective tool.

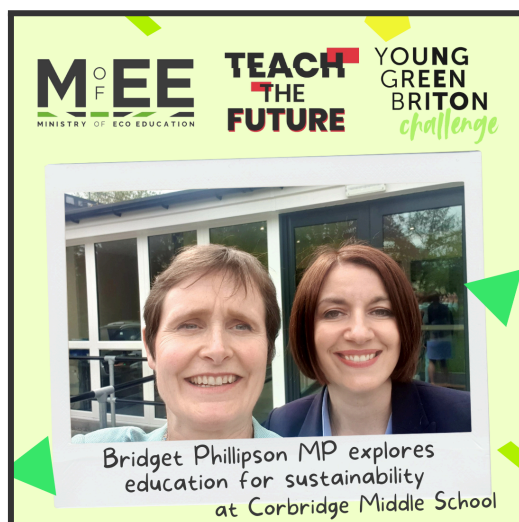
Average monthly impressions	Social Media Platform
10,000	Instagram
1,000	Facebook
20,000	X (formerly Twitter)
1,500	LinkedIn
4,000	Youtube

Political Engagement

Over the academic year 2023-24 politicians reached out to MEE and requested school visits within their constituencies. MEE collaborated with SOS UK and Teach The Future to organise a visit for Bridget Phillipson MP (Secretary State for Education) to a Ministry of Eco Education school. On 10th May, Bridget and her parliamentary aide were joined by Joe Morris, the Labour candidate for the Corbridge area along with 3 members of the SOS/ Teach the Future team, a film crew and 3 members of the Net Zero and education teams from Northumberland County Council. Key Stage 2 pupils showed Bridget around the school explaining the climate action they had taken and the challenges faced through lack of support and funding. Key Stage 3 pupils hosted a Teach the Teacher workshop and answered questions on how the school embeds climate and sustainability across the curriculum.



Bridget Phillipson along with Teach the Future and SOS UK in Corbridge Middle School



Social Media post with Bridget Phillipson



Dale Vince with Sadiq Khan as part of EarthFest

During EarthFest, Dale Vince participated in a discussion event with the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan. The event was an important platform to communicate a shared message about climate action. The event coincided with the release of MEE tailored support for educators across London, including bridging documents for every London Borough.

Young Green Briton Challenge

The Ministry of Eco Education team supports the Young Green Briton Challenge through the development of materials and assisting in the delivery of the Young Green Briton Challenge design sprints, dragons dens and national final. In the North East MEE helped to create a regional hub with support of Northumberland County Council. In 2023-24 the council provided seed funding and hosted a regional final for the schools. In the South, MEE led the delivery of a design sprint for The Petersfield School and supported design sprint in Worthing.



Young Green Briton National Final at City Hall in London

Future Plans

Ministry of Eco Education Schools

We plan to support schools to better celebrate and shout about their engagement with the Ministry of Eco Education. We aim to achieve this through a short list of actions which schools “complete” to achieve sustainable school status. We also plan to create a case study template to share examples of schools and how they have been influenced by the MEE approach.

Network of Activators

Over the past three years, we have connected with a variety of passionate people which we plan to formally recognise as a network of activators. The network will engage people as volunteers to connect with schools and support them in creating a green Britain. The network will provide mutual support and opportunities for sharing and be led by Activators.



Food Campaign

We plan to bring together partners from the food and education sectors to create a cohesive campaign to rally schools to commit to 50% of their food provision to be plant based. The campaign will involve video content, interviews, workshops and activation activities which open schools to the possibilities of plant based food.

All Schools

Having reached half of all schools in England we now have the aim of connecting with all schools, providing curriculum support and space for teachers to reflect on education for sustainability.