# Biodiversity Module Checklist

The ResourceSmart Schools (RSS) Biodiversity Module enables you to understand biodiversity in your school grounds and undertake actions to improve your local biodiversity.

Complete the 7 compulsory actions and a minimum of 17 of the 25 recommended actions.

The document icon  means that there is a template and/or a guide document available to support this action. Compulsory actions are linked to the ribbon icon.

## A Workplace and operational

Assess the way your school uses its natural resources with a biodiversity audit and establish your Habitat Quality Assessment Score. Create a biodiversity improvement action plan.

A1 Current status and research

A1.1 We have undertaken a biodiversity audit at our school.

A1.2 We have undertaken a wildlife audit, identifying, monitoring, and documenting the native animals at our school. 

A1.3 We have entered the Habitat Quality Assessment Score from our annual biodiversity audit into RSS Online to establish our baseline. We have updated this data for the period we have been active in the RSS program. We have explained any anomalies that have occurred.

A2 Preparation and planning

A2.1 We have used our biodiversity and wildlife audits to create a biodiversity improvement annual action plan that articulates our biodiversity related goals. The plan has been endorsed by a relevant oversight group such as the school council, school board, and/or sustainability planning team.

A2.2 We have completed staff professional development on biodiversity and associated themes.

A2.3 We have applied for biodiversity related grants, awards, or competitions.

A2.4 We have planting procedures in line with local considerations.

A3 Habitat creation and maintenance

A3.1 We have in place environmentally sensitive soil management and stormwater management processes for our school grounds.

A3.2 We have maintained and protected our conservation areas and remnant vegetation.

A3.3 We have established habitat development areas and aesthetic works to enhance the school yard.

A3.4 We have appropriately fenced and guarded sensitive vegetation areas.

A3.5 We have established nature trails and installed interpretive signage.

A4 Garden waste management

A4.1 We have regularly undertaken mulching, weed control and vegetation litter management.

A4.2 We have composted, mulched, or chipped our garden waste.

A5 Biodiversity and litter

A5.1 We have a litter management plan that protects our school's biodiversity.

## B Learning and teaching

Include biodiversity in your learning and teaching activities by creating an action plan and provide practical opportunities for students to engage with local biodiversity.

B1 Land care, habitat, ecology and sustainable land management

B1.1 We have linked educational activities to our Biodiversity Improvement Annual Action plan. 

B1.2 We have linked our biodiversity education curriculum to the current mandated curriculum.

B1.3 We have included authentic, immersive, hands-on learning opportunities in our biodiversity education program.

B1.4 We have incorporated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learning perspectives in the development of our biodiversity education program

B1.5 We have used our biodiversity audit data to complement our biodiversity education program.

## C Whole school community engagement

Involve your school community in biodiversity actions by sharing your biodiversity stories to inform, involve, engage and demonstrate your leadership.

C1 Policy and reporting

C1.1 We have communicated our biodiversity activities, including progress made to improve our biodiversity, to our school community. 

C1.2 We have completed at least one school learning story that celebrates our biodiversity achievements and shared this with our school community. 

C1.3 We have run school events that support, improve and maintain biodiversity.

C2 Student and parent leadership

C2.1 We have involved students in the development of our biodiversity program.

C2.2 We have a student action team that contributes to the implementation of the Biodiversity Improvement Annual Action Plan and coordinates biodiversity related activities across the school. 

C2.3 We have involved parents, carers, volunteers and other members of the school community to assist us with planning, implementing and reviewing our Biodiversity Improvement Annual Action Plan.

C3 Community and communication links

C3.1 We have collaborated with our local council and/or regional authorities to develop and participate in biodiversity related projects within the school and/or wider community.

C3.2 We have participated in local biodiversity activities.

C3.3 We have shared biodiversity related ideas and activities with our school community to encourage them to be more biodiversity aware and active at home.

C3.4 We have given presentations about our school's biodiversity programs to other schools and/or organisations.

C3.5 We have received support for biodiversity related projects from local, state and federal governments, local businesses and local friends' groups.

C3.6 We have supported environmental protection and conservation projects by raising funds. For example, sponsoring an endangered animal, contributing to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), propagating and/or donating trees to property owners.