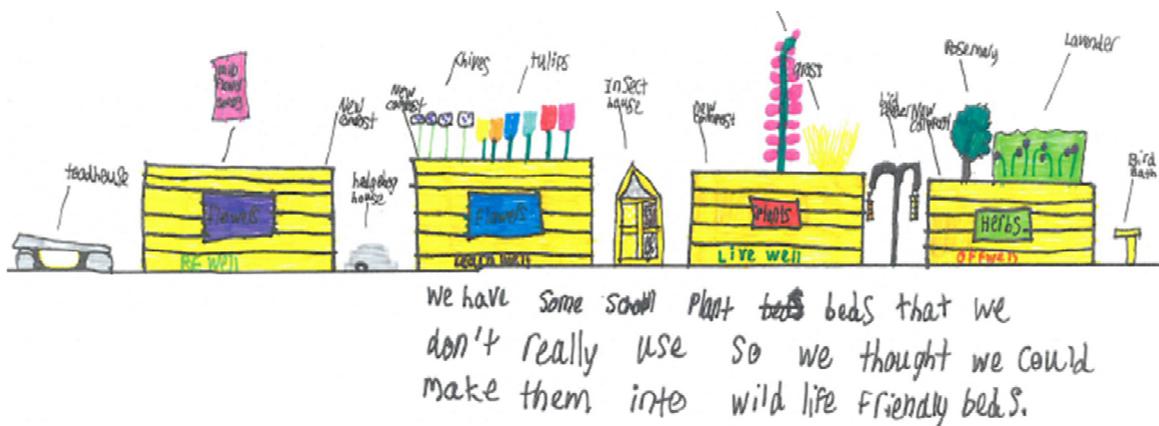


Offwell School values its geographical position in the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). We also value our school grounds and how we can help them be part of a sustainable environmental vision. Therefore, we have an Eco-Team - 10 children from across the school - whose remit is to see how we can best meet the needs of ourselves and the creatures and plants with which we share our world. The team meets regularly with our Headteacher, Mrs Legg, to talk about their ideas and seek ways to achieve their aims.

The team recently successfully applied for a One-Off Grant offered by the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society. The Society asked for submissions which supported their aim to work with local councils and environmental organisations for the benefit of pollinators.

The Eco-Team set out clearly the work they would like to undertake to improve the grounds of our school for the mutual benefit of insects, animals, plants and people. Below are two of the ideas they submitted:



In their response, confirming our success, the AVDCS stated that they 'feel passionately that the natural world is cherished, and that children are encouraged to have contact with their environment on every opportunity'. This sentiment matches the ethos of our school: 'Learning to Live Well', as, with our connection with the Offwell Woodland Education Trust, we encourage the children to share in the beauty and benefits of being in such a wonderful area, through our regular walks to Offwell Woods. We also remind children of the respect owed to nature, by not picking wildflowers and clearing up litter; educating children about the carefully balanced habitats within our environment, to help to our children become good citizens of the world.

Work on this project will commence shortly and we will keep you updated on its progress.