



Caru Gwenyn  
Bee Friendly



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## Case Studies

# Bee friendly at Coastlands School

**“People need to learn not to hate bees, but to love them. They are massively important to us as they pollinate our crops. The Bee Friendly scheme is perfectly named to raise awareness and change people’s views” – Coastland’s Eco Warrior, Ria**

Coastlands school ([www.coastlandscpschool.co.uk](http://www.coastlandscpschool.co.uk)) take an active role in learning and caring for their environment and pollinators. They were awarded Bee Friendly status in 2017.

The pupils are working hard, not only to improve their school grounds for pollinators, but also to raise wider awareness of their importance.

They think learning about bees and pollinators gives them a better understanding of their global responsibilities.

Coastlands School has pledged to provide pollinator-friendly flowers throughout the year and places for insect pollinators to live, avoid harmful chemicals and involve the community in raising awareness of the importance of pollinators.

### Theme 1 – Food – providing pollinator-friendly food sources

They first selected plants for their pollen-providing potential and then planted a pollinator corner and dug a wild flower bed. They have a ‘meadow’ section of their school grounds where the grass and flowers are allowed to grow.

### Theme 2 – Five Star Accommodation – providing places for pollinators to live

They built and maintain bug hotels, one in the school garden and another in a local wood. The children regularly go on ‘bug hunts and look in their bug hotel, inspect the pollinating plants and use sweep nets. They record changes in the school grounds, note the progress of wild seed growth and take photos. They have found Polli:Nation ([www.polli-nation.co.uk](http://www.polli-nation.co.uk)) to be an excellent source of resource materials.



### Theme 3 – Freedom from Pesticides – avoiding chemicals that harm

To ensure that contractors do not spray weed killers, they made signs to highlight that they want their school to be ‘chemical free’. The school is committed to not using any pesticides.

### Theme 4 – Fun – Involving all the community

They designed an eco-mascot, Flora the bee, which they use for their eco work. They held a ‘stripey’ or bee clothing day. The aim of the day was to raise awareness of the importance of bees and pollinators and of what everyone can do to take care of them. They have promoted the work they are doing with parents, the local paper and social media.