Countdown *Growing for Good* Grants
Application Guidelines

Who can apply?

All New Zealand primary and intermediate schools (Years 1-8) are eligible to apply for the Countdown *Growing for Good* grant.

The project must be related to one or more of the following:
- ❏ Sustainable food production like planting vegetable gardens, growing fruit trees
- ❏ Recycling and improving how your school manages waste
- ❏ Composting, reducing food waste or food rescue
- ❏ Enhancing natural habitats or protecting native wildlife
- ❏ Learning and utilising traditional Māori (or other cultural) planting gardening practices
- ❏ Other - e.g. beehives, bee-friendly planting, chicken coops.

The application must also include:
- A school logo and/or a photo of your school sign for use on the Countdown *Growing for Good* grants page.
- A site 'before' photo for comparison with the completed project.

Examples of what we could fund:

- Planting species native to your local area
- Removal of invasive weeds
- Seed collection and propagation
- Nest box construction and installation
- Beehive construction and installation
- Vegetable and herb gardens

- Composting and worm farms
- Recycling projects and activities
- Project infrastructure, tools and equipment up to a maximum of $500 (eg: wheelbarrows, gloves, tools (not power tools), watering cans, wood for planter boxes or gardens.

What we do not fund:

- Consultancy and contractor fees
- Wages, administration and labour costs
- Training
- Travel costs and airfares

- Delivery and postage costs
- Synthetic grass or flowers
- Power tools (eg: lawnmowers, chainsaws etc.)

GROWING FOR GOOD

Help protect Aotearoa's environment for generations to come.

About Countdown *Growing for Good* Grants:

The Countdown *Growing for Good* grants programme offers funding for New Zealand primary schools who want to foster a love for growing and protecting our environment for our next generation of gardeners, environmentalists and conservationists.

Countdown wants to support schools to engage in meaningful and educational outdoor, hands-on environmental learning activities the promote the development of positive environmental, educational and social outcomes.

Projects must focus on one or more of the following areas:

- Sustainable food production e.g: learning about where our food comes from (including bee pollination), plant life cycles, growing vegetable or herb gardens.
- Recycling and improving waste management practices e.g: learning how to set-up and manage composts and worm farms, collecting rainwater for water plants etc)
- Enhancing native habitats and protecting native wildlife e.g: learning about local ecosystems (including plants, animals and soils), creating habitats required for local plants and animals to thrive creating pest free areas, planting food sources for native wildlife etc.
- Learning and utilising Māori (or cultural) gardening practices - work with local iwi to learn indigenous gardening and conservation practices.

We know that these projects will likely take many different forms and we'd encourage kids in your class to be actively involved in the research and design process.

Planning your project:

To develop a strong project idea:

1. Carry out some research on some of the great environmental projects that schools are undertaking throughout the world - consider what might work here in New Zealand.
2. Set up a team of students, other teachers, whanau, parents, community members and locals with expertise, who can assist with coordinating the project.
3. Look around your school grounds and the local area and make note of natural and built existing features. In particular, look for signs of fauna (birds, insects, mammals, lizards and butterflies) and their habitats.
4. Identify areas that could be utilised for gardens, composting or recycling stations, or where a habitat could be enhanced for native species.

Assessment criteria:

Criteria	How do I meet the criteria
1. Expected environmental outcomes	- Detail existing natural values (e.g: what animals use the areas, what native plants already occur, is it an areas of significance) - How your project improves natural values (e.g: providing habitat to native birds, improve the survival of indigenous flora and fauna) and/or - How your project will encourage sustainable practices (e.g: composting will reduce food waste going to landfill)
2. Expected educational outcomes and integration into the school curriculum	- Detail the topics the students will learn about and - How the project will enhance student learning (e.g: being involved in planting activities will teach students about the growth and survival of living things.
3. Level of hands on student involvement in project	Consider involving students in all aspects of the project, where appropriate (e.g: project planning and design)
4. Level of involvement of the broader school community or local community	Consider and provide details about how the project will benefit the wider community (e.g: signage, community working groups, community cooking classes using produce grown)
5. Project activities that are feasible and technically sound	- Support from local experts or groups - Relevant experience of the project team - The timing of activities and seasons
6. Commitment to maintaining and upgrading project outcomes	- Detail how and when you will maintain the project outcomes (e.g: set up quarterly community working bee or a school gardening club. - How students will benefit from the project in te longer term (e.g: students will monitor the growth and survival of plants)
7. Realistic and detailed project budget	Include an itemised budget, which aligns with the project activities, scale and scope.

Applying for a *Growing for Good* Grant

Other criteria:

- To be eligible, your application must include a school logo/photo for use on the Countdown website and a 'before' photo for comparison with the completed project.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

How to apply:

All New Zealand primary schools can apply for a *Growing for Good* grant by submitting their application to growingforgood@countdown.co.nz by 30 November 2018.

To complete your application, you will need to:

- ❏ Obtain endorsement from your school's principal
- ❏ Have your NZBN, and school bank account details ready
- ❏ Completed your application form
- ❏ Have a school logo for adding to the Countdown website
- ❏ Taken a 'before' photo for comparison with when project is completed

To submit an application:

Send your completed application form, 'before' photo and school logo through to growingforgood@countdown.co.nz