

# PLASTIC FREE CAMPUS CHALLENGE



## About the Challenge:

The Plastic-Free Campus Challenge designed to empower students from Class 5 to 12 in environmental action by making their school campuses plastic-free. Encouraging students to identify plastic-related problems on campus and create practical, real-world solutions, the challenge transforms learning into action, which promotes entrepreneurial thinking at a young age. It helps students move beyond textbooks and experience what it truly means to create impact. Through creativity, teamwork, and leadership, students will work to reduce plastic use across their campus and promote a cleaner, healthier campus for everyone.

## Purpose:

To make schools move toward becoming plastic-free by empowering students to lead this change by nurturing student leadership and entrepreneurship to create future environmental champions who carry these values far beyond the school campus.

## Objectives:

- Reduce plastic use and promote sustainability in schools.
- Inspire students to create action-based solutions for a plastic-free campus.
- Foster leadership, entrepreneurship, and responsibility towards climate and community.
- Assist schools in adopting long-term practices for cleaner, plastic-free environments.





# GUIDELINES



## 1. Eligibility

- Students from Classes 5 to 12 can participate.
- Entries must come through schools only
- Participation is open individually or in teams of 3–4 students.

## 2. Types of Ideas Allowed

Students may propose action-based or action + awareness ideas such as:

- Refill or reuse systems
- Plastic-free celebrations or events
- Awareness activities with measurable action
- Any idea that reduces plastic usage or plastic waste on the campus

## 3. School-Level Selection

- Students first pitch their ideas within their school.
- Schools select their top 3 entries based on impact, practicality, and creativity.
- Only these 3 entries are sent to Plastic-Free Sunday.
- 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 is the deadline

### Note\*

Students implement their projects independently, with school support.





# TIMELINE



## Step 1: Student Idea Pitching

Students present their ideas to their school. Schools may use presentations, written submissions, or internal competitions to review the ideas.



## Step 2: School Shortlisting

Each school selects the top 3 entries and forwards them to Plastic-Free Sunday. No more than three entries are allowed. The deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026



## Step 3: PFS Evaluation

Plastic-Free Sunday conducts a hybrid assessment and mentoring session for all shortlisted students.



## Step 4: 3 Month Implementation

- The selected students or teams get 3 months to execute their ideas on the school campus from Jan -March 2026
- Schools regularly monitor progress and assist where necessary.
- Students must work toward creating visible, measurable environmental impact.



## Step 5: Final Assessment

- Plastic-Free Sunday evaluates the completed projects based on:
  - Plastic reduction and alternatives adopted
  - Sustainability and feasibility
  - Student leadership
  - Community involvement
  - Innovation and real-world impact



## Step 6: Winner Announcement

- The top 10 students will be declared winners.
- Excellent-performing students may get an opportunity to become Plastic-Free Sunday Fellows.
- Participating schools may earn the Plastic-Free Campus Certificate.



# FAQ'S



**Q: Who can participate?**

**A:** Students from Class 5–10, individually or in groups of 3–4.



**Q: Does the idea need to be completely original?**

**A:** Yes, students can draw inspiration and modify them for their school.



**Q: Will PFS provide materials or funds?**

**A:** No. Students implement ideas with available school resources



**Q: How many entries can a school submit?**

**A:** A maximum of 3 entries.



**Q: Can students submit awareness-only ideas?**

**A:** Yes, but they must include on-the-ground action.



**Q: Will PFS visit the school?**

**A:** No. Mentorship is provided in a hybrid format.



**Q: How long is the challenge?**

**A:** Three months of implementation after the mentoring session.



**Q: How can I register?**

**A:** You can register at [www.plasticfreesunday.com](http://www.plasticfreesunday.com).