Climate Action & Sustainability Field Study 2027
Reducing Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Investigating how human activity in busy natural areas affects carbon storage, and identifying actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including encouraging local tourism and reducing travel abroad.

Field Study Investigations

Students complete structured investigations in high footfall environments at a river or coastal area.

Using real field data, students turn their findings into practical actions to reduce emissions, protect carbon sinks, and encourage local tourism.

They can create reports, identify carbon-rich areas, and plan simple actions like restoring damaged vegetation, all ready to feed straight into their CASD Action Project. A strong, real-world starting point for students.

Programme Delivery & Practical Information

All specialist equipment is provided, including wellingtons, clipboards, and fieldwork equipment. Students receive a workbook to record their findings and support their CASD Action Project back in the classroom.

Sites are carefully selected for safety and strong learning outcomes. All programmes are led by experienced, qualified instructors with remote first aid certification.

The field study lasts approximately 3 hours and costs €35 per student.

Booking is quick and easy through our online system, with live availability.

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Field Study Experience

Students carry out hands-on investigations in rivers or coastal areas, using real data to explore how people impact carbon sinks, how this links to emissions, and how protecting these places can encourage people to holiday locally.

River Study – Powerscourt Waterfall (Bus parking, toilets, café)

Students investigate the impact of high footfall on carbon storage by:

- Identifying areas where vegetation has been trampled, reducing carbon sinks
- Measuring riverbank stability and observing signs of erosion
- Assessing the impact of litter on plant life and soil quality
- Exploring informal pathways created by visitors and their effect on vegetation loss
- Examining existing management strategies used on-site to protect the environment

Students then evaluate:

- How these impacts contribute to reduced carbon storage and increased emissions
- What practical actions could be taken to protect and restore these areas

Coastal Study – Greystones South Beach (Bus parking, DART access, toilets, village nearby)

Students explore coastal systems and human impact on carbon storage by:

- Investigating erosion of dunes, beach areas, and coastal vegetation
- Assessing how footfall affects fragile carbon-storing environments
- Examining the impact of tourism, access routes, and litter
- Observing shoreline change and sediment movement
- Reviewing local measures in place to manage erosion and protect habitats

Students then consider:

- How coastal environments act as carbon sinks
- What actions could reduce pressure on these systems and support emissions reduction

Fieldwork Methods

Students use a range of scientific techniques, including:

- Quadrat sampling and transects
- Soil and vegetation analysis
- River measurements and beach profiling
- Environmental surveys and scoring
- Sketches and photographic data collection

From Data to Action

Using the data they collect, students develop practical, evidence-based actions focused on protecting carbon sinks, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and making them more attractive for local use.

This includes:

- Identifying areas for restoration or protection
- Proposing realistic solutions to manage footfall and human impact
- Planning practical actions such as replanting vegetation and restoring damaged areas
- Producing outputs such as reports or information resources

This process gives students a strong, ready-to-use foundation for their CASD Action Project, while saving valuable classroom time for teachers.

Ready to Plan Your Visit?

We're happy to answer any questions or help you plan your field study.

Visit our website or email us at:

info@branchout.ie

www.branchout.ie