# Welcome to the GLOBE Ireland Air Quality Campaign



# Primary and Secondary School Teachers - Join us for our next Air Quality Campaign!

Over 600 schools around Ireland have participated in this project to date. The campaign is coordinated by GLOBE Ireland, as part of The Environmental Education Unit (EEU) of An Taisce and is sponsored by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The <u>GLOBE</u> <u>programme</u> is an international science and education program, sponsored by NASA.

# What is the GLOBE Ireland Air Quality Campaign?

The GLOBE Ireland Air Quality Campaign is a school-based citizen science project to assess traffic-related (nitrogen dioxide) air pollution outdoors at schools in Ireland. This is an educational project designed to raise awareness about air pollution; showcase the potential of citizen science to gather unique datasets and insights into our environment; and promote behaviour change. The Air Quality campaign will begin September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

# Why measure Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)?

The campaign measures nitrogen dioxide gas in the air, a principal pollutant associated with traffic emissions. While Ireland's overall air quality is generally good by international

standards it is now apparent that local air quality may not be as consistently good. There are often wide variations in local air quality going undetected that can have significant impacts on the health and wellbeing of local communities, so **we want you to investigate the quality of the air around your school!** 

# How does it work?

Each Teacher who registers for the GLOBE Ireland Air Quality Campaign will receive a free air quality pack by post approximately 1 week before the campaign begins. Please note, there is only 1 air quality pack allowed per school, so please coordinate internally around which teacher will implement the project in advance.

The air quality pack will contain **two sampling tubes** to be placed outside at two different locations around the school. You will leave the tubes in place for a short period of time (4 weeks) and then return the tubes in the pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelope that you received as part of your air quality pack. GLOBE Ireland will then send your tubes to a laboratory to be analysed and, after a short time, you will receive your nitrogen dioxide pollutant results by email.



# How do I integrate this into my classroom?

GLOBE Ireland will provide resources to help guide lesson planning around air pollution and implementation of the project. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to participate in meaningful citizen science, learn about air pollution, and gather data that supports the EPA's decision making around Ireland's environment.

# How do I take part?

# **Registration for the September-October campaign will begin August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.** You can register here: <u>https://arcg.is/10ru8n</u>

# Places are limited so please register early to avoid disappointment.

To find out more about the Air Quality campaign email globe@eeu.antaisce.org and

visit the GLOBE Ireland website here: <u>https://www.globe.gov/web/ireland/home/overview-of-air-quality-campaign</u>