

Level 5:

Living an Ecological Vocation



A Level 5 Catholic Earthcare School has undergone a profound ecological conversion, is living an ecological vocation and is enabling change by animating others. They are change makers and leaders!

Its planning and actions to care for our common home are aligned to, and gain strength from, the school's charism and mission as it pursues to address the interrelatedness of the cry of the earth and cry of the poor.

A Level 5 Catholic Earthcare School has actioned 7 Laudato Si' Action Platform goals in 7 years.

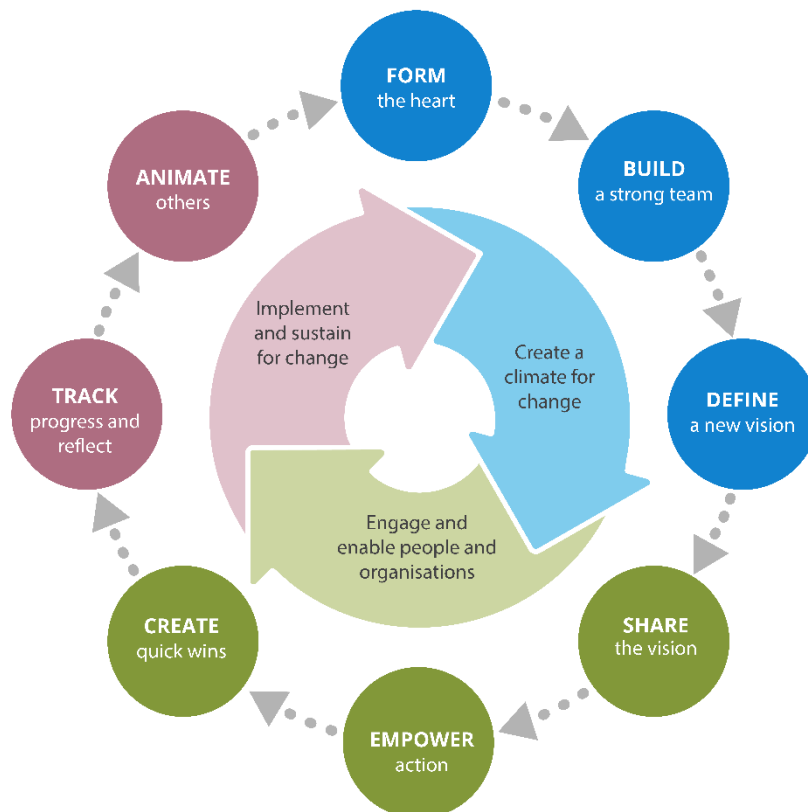
Documents to submit to Earthcare

Provide a comprehensive report to Earthcare on the school's Laudato Si' journey over the past 5-7 years.

If you are registered on the Laudato Si' Action Platform, upload your self-assessment and annual plan.

STEPS TO ECOLOGICAL DIALOGUE

Transforming hearts, heads and hands



Developed by Caritas Australia, based on John Kotter's 8 Step Process for Leading Change

Using the Steps to Ecological Dialogue as a framework, these are the typical actions a Level 5 Earthcare school could take:

Form the Heart

- Staff take a leadership role in bringing together other schools for cluster Professional Learning opportunities to help animate beyond their school boundary.
- Foster engagement with community-based ecology groups and sponsor regular school activities in partnership with these external groups. Link it back to the school's mission and operational plan.
- Student leaders conduct a whole-school ecological activity that focuses on integral ecology and animating others. Other schools are invited to attend.

Build a Strong Team

- The Earthcare journey and the Laudato Si' goals have been embedded into the life of the school e.g., leadership positions, House activities, awards etc.
- Integral ecology is embedded in the culture of the school where the 'cry of the earth' and 'cry of the poor' are clearly heard and acted on.

Define the Vision

- Demonstrate continuous development of existing themes, and the introduction of new themes, as the school undergoes a profound transformation and ecological conversion towards an ecological vocation.
- Your annual audit will illustrate how well you are maintaining your efforts and whether the school has addressed all 7 goals of the Laudato Si' Action Platform.
- At least two themes must involve/ engage with a group external to the school community.
- Connect to the curriculum.
- Living an ecological vocation demands a comprehensive overview of ecological initiatives that are embedded in the school's curriculum at all levels.

Share the Vision

- Audit Reports and Plan are shared within the school community.
- Regular articles/ reports are promoted in all school publications and media, more than two per term.
- Earthcare activities are included in the school's governance structures such as parent meetings, and council or board meetings.
- Earthcare activities are communicated outside of the school through media channels and demonstrate cooperative ventures with community groups.

Empower Action

- Demonstrate how actions are aligned to the charism and vision of the school.
- Carry out an audit in another area addressing a new LSAP goal.
- Demonstrate connectivity to like-minded groups and people outside of the school community.
- Identify and manage obstacles to change.
- Encourage risk-taking and non-traditional ideas, activities, and actions.

Create Quick Wins

- Demonstrate the integration of multiple themes over time into the culture and mission of the school.
- Celebrate your achievements.

Track Progress and Reflect

- Work with Earthcare staff to provide a comprehensive report.

Animate Others

- Become leaders and change makers in animating other schools and your community.
- Share, educate and celebrate.
- Host a sharing event for your school and demonstrate leadership in the animation of other schools.



Macrozamia fronds. Photo: Gwen Michener