SUSTAINABLE LETTERBOXES

LOVE LETTERS TO NATURE

WHAT IF YOUR SCHOOL GARDEN HAD ITS VERY OWN LETTERBOX?

The **Victorian School Garden Program** is inviting kindergartens, schools and childrens community groups from around the state to design and build a one-of-a-kind letterbox for love letters to nature — the perfect entry point to your school garden to display at **Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show 2027.**

Get creative, get crafty and turn old, unwanted and recycled materials into something wonderful. Think timber offcuts, recycled plastics, bottle tops, old toys, packaging, found objects... if it can be rescued, reused or repurposed, give it a new life!

YOUR LETTERBOX SHOULD BE:

- Made from recycled, reused or sustainable materials
- Inspired by nature
- Creative, colourful and full of personality
- Recognisable as a letterbox
- Designed as an entry point or gateway to your school garden
- Able to stand up on its own or slot into our special display stand





Competition entry process

1. **Express your school/groups interest by following this link.**
2. Register your letterbox entry (an email will be sent to all EOIs next year to confirm your entry into competition).
3. Deliver your letterbox to the show (more information to be provided closer to date).
4. Collect your letterbox after the Show (more information to be provided closer to date).

Click here or scan the QR code to express your interest!

Maybe it looks like a giant flower. Maybe it's made from recycled treasures. Maybe it has a cheeky frog, a buzzing bee or a whole imaginary garden built into the design. Anything goes — as long as it celebrates nature and gives discarded materials a new lease on life.

Students can give their letterbox a name and create a love letter to nature to attach for display.

What would your class say to the trees, birds, bugs, flowers and wild places they love? The creative letterboxes will be brought together at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show 2027, creating a colourful display of what Victoria's youngest gardeners and nature-lovers can imagine.

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MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

A LITTLE PRACTICAL DETAIL

Your letterbox needs to be sturdy enough to stand up by itself or be designed to slot into a stand we'll provide at MIFGS. It will also need to be robust enough to withstand being outdoors for one week and being moved around.

If you're using our stand, your letterbox will need a 25mm round diameter opening and at least 40cm of support to slide into the stand. That's about the width of a broomstick handle.

Prizes for best use of recycled materials

First place	**$1,000** of nursery vouchers
Second place	**$750** of nursery vouchers
Third place	**$500** of nursery vouchers
People's choice	**$750** of nursery vouchers

And there's one more important rule: your letterbox must be made from non-living materials. No living plants, animals or insects can be part of the letterbox itself — so let your imagination do the growing!

Please read through the design checklist on the following page for additional height and size guidance.

Although letterboxes must be designed by students/young people, we encourage you to engage with your local community to help – think Men's Sheds and other community groups and/or volunteers!

Please note: *Letterboxes which do not meet the above criteria may be excluded from competition and being displayed. While we endeavour to take care of the letterboxes, due to relocation movements and weather elements, they may incur damage.*



YOUR MISSION

RESCUE – Give old materials a new life.
CREATE – Build a letterbox bursting with imagination.
CONNECT – Make it the welcoming gateway to your school garden.
LOVE – Write a letter to nature and tell it why you care.

Dear Nature,
We made you something... 💚📬



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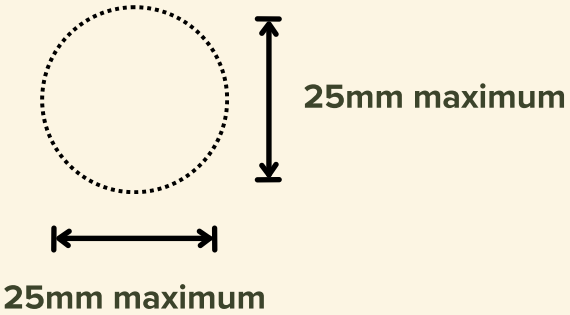
MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

DESIGN CHECKLIST

- [ ] Made entirely from repurposed, recycled and reused materials. Robust as they will be outside in all elements and will need to be moved around.
- [ ] No loose parts.
- [ ] Be mounted on a round main pole, the width of a broomstick (22-25mm) with 40cm of the pole free to fit into stand or it can be freestanding.
- [ ] No shorter than 1.2m and
- [ ] No taller than 2 metres high
- [ ] No wider than 60 centimetres.
- [ ] No heavier than 20kg.

TEMPLATE FOR STAND

If your letterbox is not free standing and you are intending to use the provided stand, please ensure your main pole fits through the below hole 25mm in diameter. This has been designed to fit a typical broom handle.



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