Guardian Project Recognition Rubric

Part 1 – Whole-School Criteria

Criteria	Silver (Emerging) Tier *Foundational Commitment*	Gold (Committed) Tier *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Platinum (Exemplary) Tier *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model Schools *Transformational Model*
Commitment to the Guardian Vision	School joins the network and launches at least **1 project** aligned with one Promise; basic participation in network opportunities.	School integrates **2+ Promises** into school initiatives; staff and students understand and use Guardian language in daily practice.	Guardian values and Promises are **strategically embedded** in policies, programs, and leadership structures.	All **Five Promises** and **four focus areas** are part of the school's identity and strategic plan.
Vision Alignment & Framework Implementation	Awareness stage: initial projects align with purpose-driven education.	Guardian frameworks guide planning and instructional design in multiple subjects.	Guardian frameworks inform **strategic and cultural transformation** across the school.	School serves as a **model and mentor**, co-developing and piloting Guardian frameworks globally.

Faculty Engagement & Peer Learning	A small group of educators leads projects; collaboration is emerging.	Faculty participate in **peer coaching** and Guardian learning events, sharing promising practices.	Educators provide **regional leadership**, hosting site visits and supporting other schools.	Faculty lead **global collaboration**, co-author frameworks, and mentor schools internationally.
Community Impact & Partnerships	Initial partnerships support Guardian-aligned projects.	Sustained, reciprocal partnerships create measurable impact in at least one focus area.	School becomes a **regional hub** for collaboration, hosting multi-stakeholder initiatives.	Global partnerships drive **systemic change** across Environment, Health, Society, and Economy.
Recognition & Sharing	School shares stories internally (assemblies, newsletters, internal reports).	Impact shared in **Guardian webinars and case studies**; supporting peer growth.	Recognized in **regional/global forums** and Guardian platforms.	School becomes an **Exemplar**, shaping global policy and practice through leadership and mentoring.

PART 2 - The Guardian Promises

Student Engagement & Real-World Application	Students participate in **projects or events** tied to at least one promise, exploring real-world issues and solutions.	Students co-lead projects, engage with local and global partners, and show evidence of applying learning to community or global challenges.	Students are **changemakers and co-designers**, with sustained pathways for internships, apprenticeships, and impact-driven community projects.	Students lead initiatives regionally and globally, shaping projects that inspire **systemic impact** and global collaboration.
Global Perspective & Stewardship	Early-stage projects show a focus on sustainability or global citizenship.	Sustainability and stewardship are **embedded across disciplines**, with active student leadership in environment or economy-focused initiatives.	The school influences **regional/global conversations** in stewardship, sharing expertise and student impact broadly.	Recognized as a global leader in **stewardship and sustainability**, modeling innovation and solutions in all four focus areas.

Civic Engagement & Social Justice	Students engage in early actions or awareness campaigns tied to social justice or civic responsibility.	Students and faculty co-lead **advocacy and service-learning projects**, partnering with community stakeholders for measurable impact.	Civic and social justice leadership is **institutionalized**, driving systemic change within and beyond the school community.	The school is recognized globally for **social justice innovation and advocacy**, mentoring other schools in building equitable systems.
Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Future-Focused Learning	Students explore design thinking and creative problem-solving connected to ethical and sustainable innovation.	Entrepreneurial programs support student solutions with **measurable economic or community impact**.	The school fosters a **culture of ethical innovation**, where students consistently design and launch scalable, sustainable solutions.	The school is a hub for **future-focused education**, shaping models that are studied and emulated globally.
Solution-Oriented Mindset & Project-Based Learning	Projects are emerging that apply positive problem-solving in at least one focus area (Environment, Health, Society, or Economy).	Interdisciplinary, solution-oriented projects address **multiple focus areas**, connecting student learning to tangible outcomes.	Systems thinking and iterative design cycles are integrated across the curriculum, with **school-wide engagement**.	The school is a recognized **center of excellence** for project-based, systems-thinking education and impact.

Faculty Engagement & Peer Learning	A small group of educators leads Guardian initiatives; collaboration is emerging.	Faculty participate in **peer coaching and network events**, sharing and refining best practices.	Educators take **regional leadership roles**, hosting site visits, coaching other schools, and contributing to Guardian frameworks.	The faculty acts as a **global thought leader**, co-developing frameworks and mentoring schools internationally.
Community Impact & Partnerships	The school begins building partnerships that support Guardian-aligned projects.	Partnerships are sustained and reciprocal, producing measurable impact in one or more focus areas.	The school becomes a **regional hub** for collaboration, uniting stakeholders in systemic impact initiatives.	The school leads **multi-stakeholder, global partnerships**, driving measurable transformation in Environment, Health, Society, and Economy.
Recognition & Sharing	The school shares project stories internally to build community awareness.	The school's impact is highlighted in **Guardian webinars and case studies**, supporting peer schools.	The school is regularly featured in publications and **regional/global forums**.	The school is a **Guardian Exemplar**, shaping policy and practice across the global network and beyond.

Guardian Recognition Tiers

Tier	Requirements & Benefits
🏛️ **Silver (Emerging)** *Foundational Recognition*	1+ project aligned with one promise: access to member events, frameworks, and foundational network resources.
🏆 **Gold (Committed)** *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	2+ projects aligned with two promises; one collaborative team formed; invitations to present at network events.
🔷 **Platinum (Exemplary)** *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	3+ projects aligned with three promises; public exhibition; mentoring another school; hosting a Guardian Gathering.

🌟 **Model**

Transformational Model

Full integration of all five promises and four focus areas; recognized globally as a model Guardian School; leadership in mentoring and network-wide initiatives.

Guardian Educator Badges

Individual educators may earn badges in one or more areas of expertise based on leadership in Guardian-aligned work:

- 🔴 **Culture & Identity** – Affirming identity, celebrating culture, fostering belonging.

- 🔵 **Civics & Social Justice** – Inspiring civic engagement and advancing justice.

- 🟡 **Stewardship & Global Issues** – Protecting the planet and addressing global challenges.

- 🟢 **Entrepreneurship & Innovation** – Cultivating creativity and ethical problem-solving.

- 🟣 **Engaged Changemakers** – Empowering learners to take initiative and create meaningful change.

OUR 5 PROMISES

The following rubrics provide specific pathways for growth and excellence in each of the five Guardian Promises.

Promise 1: Student Engagement

Nurturing voice, leadership, and agency for every learner.

Criteria	Silver (Emerging) *Foundational Commitment*	Gold (Committed) *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Platinum (Exemplary) *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model *Transformational Model*
Student Leadership	Students participate in at least one Guardian-aligned project and reflect on its impact.	Students **co-lead** initiatives and collaborate with peers and teachers.	Students hold **formal leadership roles** shaping sustained initiatives and programs.	Students lead **multi-school or global networks**, mentoring other learners.
Voice & Choice	Opportunities for limited input in project design or selection.	Students **influence decision-making** in project planning and reflection.	Student voice shapes **school-wide initiatives and policies**.	Student voice is **institutionalized**, with learners co-designing systems and curricula.

Pathways	Emerging opportunities for leadership (clubs, events, exhibitions).	Leadership pathways tied to Guardian projects are consistent and accessible.	Structured programs (internships, councils, apprenticeships) are **embedded in the model**.	Pathways are **recognized globally** as best practice models for student agency.

Promise 2: Global Perspective & Stewardship

Building a generation of stewards for the planet and global citizens.

Criteria	Emerging *Foundational Commitment*	Committed *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Exemplary *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model *Transformational Model*
Awareness	Students explore sustainability and global citizenship topics in early projects.	Sustainability and stewardship are **embedded in multiple subjects**.	The school drives **cross-disciplinary programs** with measurable environmental and social outcomes.	The school **leads global initiatives** in stewardship and global action.

Application	Small-scale environmental or global projects are underway.	Students lead **community impact projects** addressing sustainability.	Partnerships and systems support **large-scale initiatives and policy changes**.	Students and faculty are **recognized globally** for stewardship leadership.
Integration	Focus areas are project-based, not systemic.	Environmental, health, and economic stewardship are **strategically aligned**.	Stewardship is part of **strategic planning and leadership priorities**.	Stewardship is a **core identity**, influencing regional/global policy and practice.

Promise 3: Civic Engagement & Social Justice

Empowering advocacy and equity for all communities.

Criteria	Emerging *Foundational Commitment*	Committed *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Exemplary *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model *Transformational Model*
Awareness & Action	Students participate in awareness campaigns or early advocacy projects.	Students lead **action projects** addressing civic or social justice issues.	Students and staff **co-design systemic equity initiatives**.	School is recognized for **global leadership** in equity and social justice.

Partnerships	Initial connections with community partners.	Sustained partnerships amplify **impact and advocacy reach**.	Deep collaborations influence **policies and systemic change**.	School partners with **regional and global advocacy networks**.
Impact	Impact limited to immediate community awareness.	Tangible improvements or changes in community practices or awareness.	Demonstrable outcomes influence **community systems and structures**.	Measurable systemic transformation **across communities and regions**.

Promise 4: Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Fostering ethical creativity and sustainable solutions.

Criteria	Silver (Emerging) *Foundational Commitment*	Gold (Committed) *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Platinum (Exemplary) *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model *Transformational Model*
Innovation Culture	Students engage in early **design-thinking activities**.	Innovation and entrepreneurship programs produce **practical solutions**.	Students drive **system-wide innovation projects** with sustainable outcomes.	School becomes a **recognized hub** of ethical innovation globally.

Ethical Practice	Initial focus on ethics and sustainability.	Students integrate **sustainability and ethics** in innovation projects.	Ethical entrepreneurship influences **school-wide decisions and external partnerships**.	Students model **global leadership** in responsible innovation.
Scalability	Projects are small-scale and internal.	Solutions scale within the school community.	Solutions scale to **regional partnerships or industry collaborations**.	Innovations **reshape systems globally**, with the school as a leader.

Promise 5: Engaged Changemakers

Turning learning into meaningful, sustained impact.

Criteria	Silver (Emerging) *Foundational Commitment*	Gold (Committed) *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Platinum (Exemplary) *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*	Model *Transformational Model*
Agency	Students show initiative in a single project.	Students collaborate across grades or teams to create broader impact.	Students **co-design institutional practices and programs**.	Students **lead regional or global collaborations** and train peers.

Collaboration	Early collaboration within classrooms or clubs.	Cross-grade and cross-community collaboration emerges.	Multi-stakeholder collaboration supports **long-term systems change**.	Networks of changemakers are **globally recognized**.
Sustained Impact	Projects end after single cycles or events.	Projects show evidence of **reflection and iteration**.	Initiatives are **institutionalized and scaled**.	Initiatives produce **regional/global change with measurable impact**.

The Guardian Project Recognition Rubric

Criteria	Silver Tier 🏛️ *Project Implementation & Student Engagement*	Gold Tier 🏆 *Community Impact & Peer Coaching*	Platinum Tier 🔷 *Systems Change & Shared Leadership*
Commitment to the Guardian Vision (Benefits and general agreements)	dsajdkla	dsjkldsa	dsjaklda

Vision Alignment & Framework Implementation	The school has launched initial projects aligned with at least **2 of the 5 Guardian Pillars** (Culture & Identity, Civics & Social Justice, Stewardship & Global Issues, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Apprenticeships & Internships). Educators are beginning to integrate future-focused learning.	Guardian Pillars are **actively embedded across multiple grade levels and subject areas**. Evidence shows intentional planning toward the **Guardian holistic framework** with **future-focused learning goals**.	Guardian Pillars are embedded at the **strategic, policy, and leadership level**, driving **whole-school transformation** toward future-focused education and systems change.
Student Engagement & Real-World Application	Students participate in **project-based learning** that connects to real-world community issues. Some students engage in **internships, apprenticeships**, or local partnerships.	Students co-lead projects, participate in **apprenticeships/internships**, and demonstrate **real-world application** of their learning, reflecting on **environmental, economic, societal, and health impacts**.	Students are positioned as **changemakers and co-designers**, with **institutionalized internship/apprenticeship programs** and **community-based learning pathways** integrated into the school's educational model.

Global Perspective & Stewardship	Early focus on **environmental sustainability and global issues**, with some projects addressing these themes.	**Global and environmental issues** are integrated across disciplines. Students engage with **sustainability projects** aligned with the **Environment and Economy aspects** of the Sustainability Model.	The school leads **regional/global initiatives** in **stewardship and sustainability**, with students consistently applying learning across **Environment, Economy, Society, and Health** contexts.
Civic Engagement & Social Justice	Students participate in projects that **raise awareness or take early action** on civic and social justice issues (Society Pillar).	Students take on **advocacy roles**, engage in **service learning**, and partner with community stakeholders to address **social equity and civic responsibility** issues.	School-wide leadership in **social justice education**, with students and faculty co-leading initiatives that address **systemic societal challenges** both locally and globally.
Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Future-Focused Learning	Students participate in **design thinking** and **problem-solving** activities. Emerging focus on **ethical and sustainable innovation (Economy Pillar)**.	**Entrepreneurship and innovation programs** encourage students to develop solutions with **sustainable and ethical economic impact**.	The school cultivates a **culture of ethical innovation**, entrepreneurship, and **economic sustainability**, with **student-driven solutions impacting real-world systems**.

Solution-Oriented Mindset & Project-Based Learning	Initial projects encourage **positive problem-solving and real-world application**, connecting to at least **one aspect** of the Sustainability Model.	Students engage in **interdisciplinary, solution-oriented projects**, drawing from **Environment, Economy, Society, and Health perspectives**.	The school fully integrates **solution-based learning and systems thinking**, with **student projects addressing all four Sustainability Model domains** through **design cycles and iterative improvement processes**.
Sustainability Model & Comprehensive Wellness Integration (Environment, Economy, Society, Health)	School projects show **emerging connections to at least one domain** of the **Guardian Sustainability Model**. There is **early attention to student well-being**, with some initiatives promoting physical or mental health.	The school designs learning experiences that **intentionally address multiple domains** of the **Sustainability Model**. **Well-being for all stakeholders** (students, staff, community) is **actively supported** through targeted initiatives.	**Full curricular and cultural integration of the Guardian Sustainability Model**. The school shows evidence of **balanced, interconnected focus on Environment, Economy, Society, and Health**, with measurable outcomes in **student well-being, community health, environmental stewardship**, and **sustainable economic practices**.

Faculty Engagement & Peer Learning	A small group of educators leads Guardian projects. Educator collaboration is in its **early stages**.	Faculty teams engage in **peer coaching**, share best practices, and participate in **Guardian network learning experiences** (webinars, case studies).	Faculty play a **regional leadership role**, hosting site visits, leading professional development for others, and **mentoring schools in Guardian implementation and sustainability education**.
Community Impact & Partnerships	School is developing **early-stage community partnerships** to support Guardian projects.	School maintains **sustained, reciprocal partnerships** with community organizations, showing **evidence of impact across multiple Sustainability Model domains**.	School is recognized as a **regional hub for community collaboration and impact**, with **multi-stakeholder projects producing systemic change across Environment, Economy, Society, and Health areas**.
Recognition & Sharing	School shares project stories internally (school website, assemblies, etc.).	School presents work through **Guardian webinars**, publishes case studies, and **supports peer schools**.	Recognized as a **Guardian Exemplar School**, featured in **Guardian publications, network visits, and regional/global forums**. Acts as a **mentor site** for others.