

# LIVING WALLS

Creating greener, cleaner and healthier  
spaces for future generations.





## Changing the world, one plant at a time: About ANS Global

ANS Global is the world's leading supplier of external and internal living walls. Using the power of plants to change lives for the better, our vision is to create cleaner, greener and healthier spaces and cities for future generations.

In a growing world, we understand the issues being faced and are champions of positive environmental change, working with schools, business and organisations across the globe to create living walls with a difference. In fact, we have installed the equivalent of over 2,250 trees around the world; that is roughly the same size as the New Forest.

Addressing the environmental challenge has never been more important, with research showing that around 6,500 schools across the UK exceed World Health Organisation recommended air pollution levels. Increasing traffic, idling cars and harmful emissions mean children are now breathing in toxic air, putting their future health and development at serious risk. We want to change this.

Transforming wasted spaces, living walls are a proven green gamechanger with a greater purpose, using plant life to create cleaner, breathable air, supporting local wildlife while also allowing children the opportunity to learn about the natural world around them.

Just one square metre of plants can provide enough oxygen for a human for a year, and we are committed to helping more schools realise their plant potential.

Don't just take our word for it. We recently helped one of London's most polluted schools, St Mary's Primary School, transform into one of the greenest by installing a 126m living wall. Packed with plants and designed to reduce air pollutants and improve air quality, the living wall has turned the school's playground into a thriving green oasis and was officially opened by London Mayor, and vocal green advocate, Sadiq Khan.

We are a global team of environmental experts committed to making the world a greener place, with our work protecting the lives and health of future generations by ensuring they breathe and have access to clean, unpolluted air.

This pack has been created to help you understand how living walls can bring about positive change, and we would appreciate the opportunity to talk to you more about the power of plants in creating healthier spaces. Enter our competition to also be in with a chance of winning a living canvas for your school!

**Steve McIntyre**  
*Urban Environment Consultant, ANS Global*

## Did you know that more than 300 UK cities exceed recommended WHO air pollution levels?

### The invisible & toxic threat: What is air pollution?

As one of the most serious environmental challenges of the century, air pollution threatens millions of people worldwide, having the potential to contribute to serious health and respiratory conditions.

Children are most at risk, with densely populated, urban areas often having the highest levels of air pollution. With thousands of schools located near busy main roads, over 2.6million children across the UK are currently being exposed to dangerous levels of toxic air.

These invisible particles come from a number of sources, including cars, planes, buses and industrial facilities, and can have a detrimental effect on our long-term health and well-being. Now a major health crisis,

a shocking 40,000 deaths every year are linked to air pollution exposure in the UK.

Microscopic in size, these particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and bloodstream, and even short-term exposure can contribute to conditions such as asthma and diabetes, while also limiting brain, heart and lung development. Mental health can also be affected with exposure to air pollution being linked to depression, concentration levels and productivity.

We believe everyone has the right to breathe clean, fresh unpolluted air and are committed to creating cleaner, greener and healthier cities and spaces by harnessing the power of the natural environment.



## A cleaner, greener & healthier future for the next generation: What are living walls?

Often featuring vibrant flowers and lush foliage, living walls can transform wasted spaces into a thriving, interactive green oasis, and offer far more than just being a beautiful feature.

Living walls are a powerful weapon in the fight against toxic air. Featuring hundreds of plants that filter and absorb invisible harmful pollutants, such as carbon dioxide generated by vehicles, living walls exchange this for fresh, breathable air.

Plant life is also proven to improve our general health and wellbeing by removing and suppressing dust particles, which are linked to long term respiratory illnesses. By offering a connection to nature, living walls can also promote better mental health with plants having a proven positive impact on stress and productivity.

Living walls also support biodiversity and are a haven for local wildlife, such as birds and insects, providing children

with the opportunity to learn and interact with the natural environment. The right choice of plants is also key to ensuring a living wall thrives for the long term, and we will often use plants found in the local area, to mimic the natural surrounding environment.

Extremely versatile, living walls can be installed internally and externally, as well as on an existing building or built into a new structure during the early stages of development.

Our mission is to ensure everyone has access to clean, unpolluted air and just some of our recent projects have seen us work with schools, universities and colleges across the country; from installing living walls in playgrounds and on external building walls to inside libraries, classrooms and communal areas.

Find out more about the benefits of living walls by visiting: [www.ansgroupglobal.com](http://www.ansgroupglobal.com)

## Living wall learnings: Improving environmental education

Living walls do not only promote a whole range of health benefits but by offering pupils a connection to the natural environment, can also become a vital part of a school's curriculum.

Giving children the opportunity to learn about nature, the environment and plant life, living walls can be used as an interactive learning tool. Promoting green learning and changing with the seasons, living walls demonstrate natural cycles first-hand while also connecting with other subjects such as art and design, science and maths.

Pupils can also play an essential role in ensuring the living wall continues to thrive, by offering them the opportunity learn how to care for the plants, which in turn helps to improve social interaction, teamwork and collaboration.

We also offer children the opportunity to plant their own pieces of the wall during the installation process and can incorporate fruit-bearing plants, such as strawberries, to encourage teaching around life cycles.

Living walls make the perfect home for local wildlife, from birds to insects, as well as supporting biodiversity – we can even build bird boxes and insect hotels into designs.

Offering the perfect habitat for nature to thrive, we want to inspire the next generation of green ambassadors, by demonstrating how they can live, interact and protect the natural world.

**“ Living walls can be used as an interactive learning tool. ”**

**“ Did you know that living walls can filter out up to 95% of the pollutants generated by vehicles? ”**

### Benefits of Living Walls

- ✦ Air purification
- ✦ Dust suppression
- ✦ Biodiversity
- ✦ Structural protection
- ✦ Sound insulation
- ✦ Noise reduction
- ✦ Improving health & well-being
- ✦ Wall and building protection





## Plant Power: Living walls in action

When a local authority survey revealed that St Mary's Primary School in Chiswick was among the top 50 most polluted schools in London, a result of the school being located near a major six-lane road, parents took the issue of improving air quality into their own hands, rallying together to launch the 'Chiswick Oasis' project.

Launching a crowdfunding campaign and winning support from celebrities, including Jeremy Paxman and Claudia Winkleman, as well as from the local community, businesses and parents, the school successfully crowdfunded over £90,000 to install a living wall in the school's playground. The initiative also received £32,000 in funding from the London Mayor's 'Crowdfund for London' programme.

Working with the school to help bring back the neglected space to life, our team installed a 126m living wall which featured over 12,000 plants with proven air purifying qualities. Supporting biodiversity and local

wildlife, the wall has the added benefit of being an interactive learning tool for pupils, along with being a green space for the local community to enjoy – playing host to future events, such as markets and fairs.

Officially opened by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, supporters from the local community and pupils also had the opportunity to plant their own piece of the living wall. We will also be visiting the school regularly to teach children about how the living wall works, as well as how it changes throughout the seasons.

Andrea Carnevali, a parent from St Mary's and the man behind the 'Chiswick Oasis' project, said: "A living wall was mentioned as a possible solution, and the more we looked into it, the more we realised the power that plants could have in not only cleaning the air, but in also bringing the rarely used space back to life.

"We are not just transforming one of the most polluted schools in London into one of the greenest, but I'd like to think that we're also creating a model for all the other schools to be inspired by and to follow."

*"Our toxic air is a public health crisis that increases the risk of dementia and asthma and damages the lung development of our children. 'Chiswick Oasis' is a brilliant example of what can be achieved when communities work together to find innovative solutions to local problems and exactly the sort of project our Crowdfund London initiative was set up to support."*

*The Mayor of London,  
Sadiq Khan*

## Competition: Win a living canvas for your school!

To be in with a chance of winning a living canvas for your school enter our competition!

We are asking pupils, parents, children and teachers to design their own unique fantasy living wall creations. It doesn't just have to include plants, and whether it's a wall that grows chocolate or sideways sunflowers or creating a design that doubles up as a bug-hotel or birdhouse, we want to know what your perfect living wall would include – the more creative, the better!

Once you have designed your perfect living wall, simply email your entry to [schools@ans.global](mailto:schools@ans.global) or send your entries via post to :

ANS Global,  
Aldingbourne Nurseries,  
Church Road,  
Chichester,  
PO20 3TU.

Be sure to include your name, age and school contact details.



Scan the QR code to find out more about educating the next generation on how we can make a difference, together.

Visit our website to see how we are helping the world become cleaner and greener.

[ansgroupglobal.com](http://ansgroupglobal.com)



To enter simply design your living wall creation on the following page! While we can't promise that we can create the winning fantasy living wall, we will give the winning entrant's school the chance to own a piece of nature, and our expert team will visit and work with you to design a bespoke living canvas.

Our team will also visit to hold a 'living wall learnings' session, where pupils, parents and teaching staff can find out more about the importance of nature, as well as the role living walls play in creating a healthier planet.

The winner will be announced as part of an annual draw, to see the full terms and conditions visit [ansgroupglobal.com/school-competition](http://ansgroupglobal.com/school-competition)

Good luck!



To find out more about living walls and the power of plants contact our team:

+44 (0)20 8088 0344 / [enquiries@ans.global](mailto:enquiries@ans.global)



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Tel No \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the competition here by drawing your own living wall.  
(See page 6 for full details)

