

School Garden Grant Case Study

School: Park Hill Junior School

Type of School: Foundation

Amount Received: £3,000

Before the project



After the project





Project aims

Our school is located in the centre of Croydon and many of our children live in small flats or cramped conditions without gardens. Our aim is to provide outdoor learning spaces for all children in the school where they can work together to grow things which they can then share and eat. Working with parents, children and a local community garden project, we intend to develop an area of unused land into a series of areas, including an area for each class to have a raised bed for growing a range of vegetables, and other areas where the children can explore the natural world.

Key project data

Working on the project we had 22 children, 13 parents, 3 school governors, the head teacher, local Scout and Cub Leaders as well as a team from Birdhurst Community Garden. This group also included several Year 6 boys who would attend without their parents to assist with the project. The work was mainly carried out over a series of Saturday mornings where volunteers would drop in for several hours. One parent who couldn't help in the garden would manage the snacks donations and provide much needed refreshments for the willing team.

Quotes from pupils

"I love gardening and I'm good at it! When can we do it again!"

"I loved working in the nature area, we made it so much bigger and better!"

"I've really enjoyed using different gardening tools, digging up weeds, racking up dead leaves and moving the wheel barrow around".

Quotes from teachers

"School is a great place to learn good eating habits and for the children who don't have a garden or don't know how to do gardening the chance to see what the process looks like."

Quotes from parents/volunteers

"I believe that children will be more likely to eat their vegetables at home"

"My family has been involved in a wonderful legacy project that will shape the lives of hundreds of children and their families for many generations"

"It was fun meeting other parents from the school community who were excited about the project. Many of us have now become friends."