



# Growing in Schools

The theory to starting and managing a school garden

Colette Bond  
Head of Education

# What we will cover

Benefits  
Evidence  
Challenges  
Solutions  
The results!



# Meet Fred.....



'I really enjoyed growing beans We planted white bean seeds and after they had grown we collected the seeds from the plants, the seeds weren't white but white with purple spots on them it was amazing! We are trying to find out why this happened. I am really excited to see what type of beans the seeds grow in the spring.'

In our school garden I have learnt how to grow healthy food. We grew some food to sell at a market. I grew a giant butternut squash, I had a great time, it was really exciting and my teacher said I was a fantastic salesman.

I have learnt that it is good for the environment to grow our own food and this makes me happy.'





“We want young people to be able to make educated and healthy choices around food, and we’re putting the foundations in for that.

They tune into the natural world and the seasons. Our work has helped children to live on this planet with a lighter touch.”

**Teacher, Primary School, London**





Head teacher



AN other

# Independent Evidence



## Benefits



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### 1. Supporting learning

- 1.1 Raising achievement
- 1.2 Developing skills for life
- 1.3 Improving motivation and encouraging positive behaviours



### 2. Enhancing health and well-being

- 2.1 Improving diet and nutrition
- 2.2 Boosting psychological health and well-being
- 2.3 Encouraging physical activity



### 3. Developing and improving schools

- 3.1 Developing and delivering a whole school ethos
- 3.2 Promoting student voice
- 3.3 Involving families
- 3.4 Engaging community support



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### 4. Strengthening communities

- 4.1 Bringing the community together
- 4.2 Improving access to fresh produce
- 4.3 Creating opportunities
- 4.4 Delivering organisational objectives

# Growing food

**Why grow food?**

Growing food means happy, healthy children that...

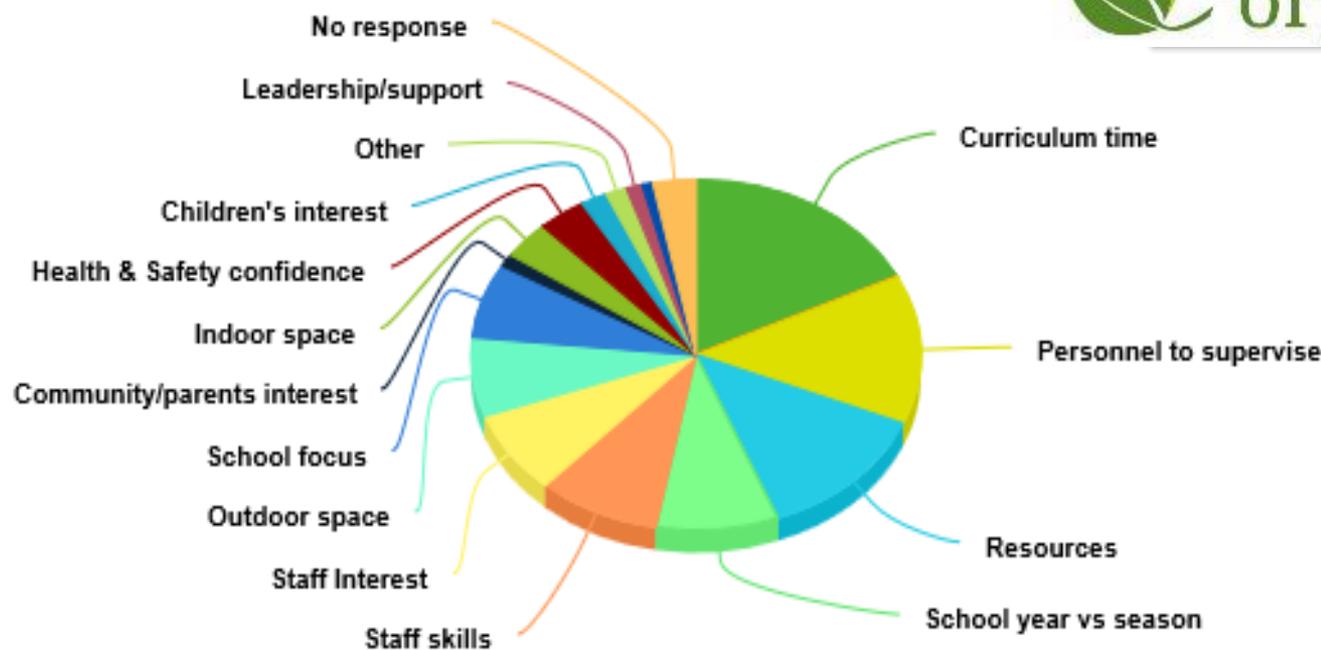


 <p>Know where food comes from</p>	 <p>Eat more fruit &amp; veg</p>
 <p>Achieve more &amp; learn new skills</p>	 <p>Are more confident</p>



# The Challenge

Barriers to food growing  
FGS Taskforce 2012



- Curriculum time
  Personnel to coordinate
  Personnel to supervise
  Resources
  School year vs season
- Staff skills
  Staff Interest
  Outdoor space
  School focus
  Community/parents interest
- Indoor space
  Health & Safety confidence
  Children's interest
  Other
  Leadership/support
- Not sure
  No response



# Some solutions



# Leadership & management

Whole school approach

School improvement plan

School & national curriculum

Garden Group

Action plan

# Planning

Whole school approach

Club or classroom?

Curriculum delivery

Curriculum links

Term time planner



# Space

Raised beds & Containers

Community spaces

Windowsills

Allotments





# People

Garden Group

Teachers & school professionals

Catering staff & maintenance teams

Parents

Local community

Businesses



# Resources

Ask/Borrow

Recycle

Upcycle – make your own

Fundraising

Freecycle/community resources

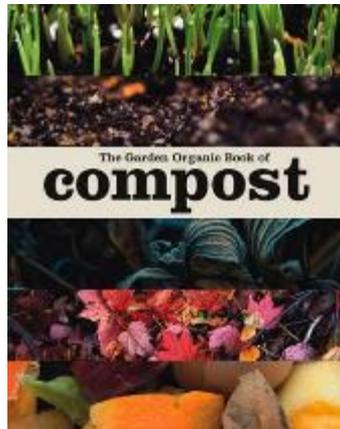
Local businesses



# Resources



# Resources



# Skills and confidence

- Health and Safety
- Group management
- Horticultural skills
- Training sessions
- Community support







# Enterprising students



Dormer Wells High School

# Brooke School - Reaching potential



# Case study - Pupil's perspective

[Midfield Primary School](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCux02ye8EkXhF4IKdZO9ggg>



# Contact details

Colette Bond

[cbond@gardenorganic.org.uk](mailto:cbond@gardenorganic.org.uk)

00442476308217

[www.gardenorganic.org.uk/schools](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/schools)



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# Thank you



Garden Organic Ryton, Coventry, Warwickshire CV8 3LG

Tel: 024 7630 3517 Fax: 024 7663 9229 Email: [enquiry@gardenorganic.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@gardenorganic.org.uk)

[www.gardenorganic.org.uk](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk)

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# Growing in Schools

Workshop session - Starting and managing a school garden

Colette Bond  
Head of Education

# What makes a successful garden?

Leadership & Management

Planning

Space

People

Resources

Skills & confidence



# Steps to take

- Garden Group
- Audit
- Questionnaires
- Vision
- Action Plan
- Review



# Your garden

- Where is it?
- What would you like to use it for?
- Who will be involved?
- What is in it?
- Who will help?

