

New Malden Primary School Case Study

Cultivating the Future

Across the UK more school children and getting interested in enjoying the social benefits of gardening while learning through the National Curriculum.

Quadron was approached by Old Malden Safer Neighbourhood Team in July 2009 and asked to look at establishing a gardening club in Malden Manor Primary School. In an attempt to create an integrated approach to gardening in the school a meeting was set up to establish stakeholders within the school and the wider community, and from the initial meeting the following key partners were established:

School champions:

Head teacher
School Caretaker
Primary Class Teacher Liaison

Community Champions:

Old Malden Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) - Chris Hamilton
Quadron Services Ltd (QSL) - Andrew Kauffman and Lionel Randell
Local garden centre owner "Gardencare Services Ltd" - Marc Patrick
RBK Neighbourhood Officer - Hannah Reese
Pride Catering - Tim Price
Eco Local Schools club from Sutton provide interactive environmental education

From the initial meeting in July it was clear from the school's point of view that an allotment plot on site would be of most benefit and a suitable site was allocated by the school.

Hannah Reese from the RBK Neighbourhood Team indicated that the school would be eligible for a Neighbourhood Grant of £600.00 to pump prime the project and get hold of much needed tools and materials which Chris Hamilton from the Old Malden SNT successfully applied for and was granted in August 2009.





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Building the Allotment Gardens

Once received, QSL and Gardencare Ltd worked together to design and fund the construction of six raised beds within the school grounds, one for each year group. Construction was completed in September 2009.

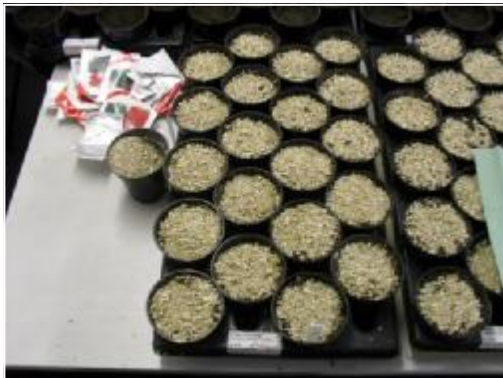
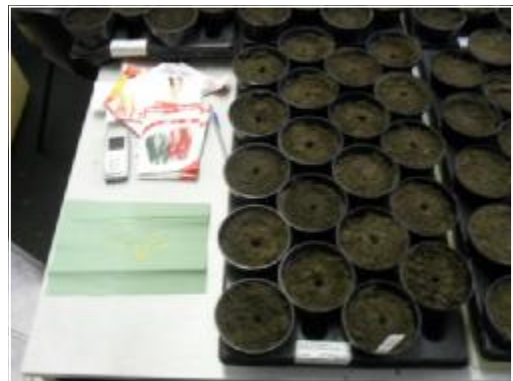




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Taster Sessions - Sowing the Seeds

During October and November 2009 QSL, along with Gardencare and SNT, visited all the classes in the school and organised a taster session with the children, planting some winter onion and garlic crops with Years 1 - 3 and seed planting with Years 4 - 6.



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Lessons continued throughout the Spring....



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In February 2010 QSL and Old Malden SNT arranged for Eco Local to come into the school and run a programme of class work shops on Healthy Eating and Food Growing.

EcoSchool Club activities for schools

EcoLocal, a Carshalton based charity, offers a range of EcoSchool Club activities in partnership with Sutton Extended services and Early Years.

These activities are designed to be fun and interactive. They are suitable for afterschool clubs, or can be delivered during class time.

To book your sessions, simply choose from the menu overleaf and complete the enclosed booking form. We now have to charge for these sessions, please see accompanying letter/e mail for rates.

If you have any questions or queries, please telephone Heather on 020 8770 6611 or email hcoather@ecolocal.org.uk



Eco Local also provide a list of crops and associated growing windows that fit into school term time and children can then plant and harvest crops within school terms as well as being involved in the tending and watering of crops during out of school clubs.

Wildlife Gardening

Wildlife Detectives KS1/KS2 Discover the wildlife living around your school and create a wildlife chart showing what you have found.	1-1.5 hour	Y1 - Y6
Make a Mini Wildlife Garden KS1/KS2 Find out what makes a garden a haven for wildlife, and then make your own mini garden in a seed tray (KS2) or a wildlife garden collage (KS1) to take home.	1-1.5 hour	Y1- Y6
Bees and Flowers KS 1/2 Find out why flowers are so important in wildlife gardens and where honey comes from. Play the Making Honey Relay Race and plant sunflower seeds in a decorated pot to take home.	1-1.5 hour	Y1 - Y6
Be a Bird Spotter Learn how to identify common garden birds and create a bird identification chart for your school or classroom.	1-1.5 hour	Y1-Y6
Make a Bird Feeder KS1/2 Discover what birds eat and make your own bird feeder out of a clean tetra pack to attract birds into your school or garden.	1-1.5 hour	Y1 - Y6
Make a Bug House KS1/KS2 Explore the wonderful world of insects. Discover why they are so important in the garden, go on a bug hunt and then make a bug house for your garden.	1-1.5 hour	Y1 - Y6

Healthy Eating and Food Growing

5-a-day KS1/KS2 Are you getting enough fruit and veg? Children learn about 5 a day by sorting different foods into those which count towards your 5 a day, and those which don't. They then make a collage place mat to take home to remind them how to get their 5-a-day.	1-1.5 hour	Y1- Y6
Cool Cress and Mega Mustard KS1/2 Have a go at food growing: plant potatoes and salad leaves for your classroom and then make a pair of decorated growing mustard and cress heads. Write a poem or rap (KS2)	1.5 Hour	Y1 - Y6
Healthy Balanced Diet KS2 Are you eating the right things? Children learn about a balanced diet by sorting foods into the 5 different food groups. Then, based on the 'Eatwell' plate, they create a collage placemat to show how much of each sort of food should be eaten.	1-1.5 hour	Y3 - Y6
Taste Bud Challenge KS1/2 Take the taste bud challenge! Teams compete to try as many different foods as possible and guess what they are.	1 hour	Y1- Y6
Giant Food Race KS1/2 A fun session of relay races with giant foam food shapes to find out about why our bodies need energy and how to eat healthily.	1 hour	Y1 - Y6
Super Seeds KS1/KS2 Where do vegetables we eat come from? Match the food to the seeds, and learn about seed planting and how to take care of them. Plant a mini veg garden to take home.	1-1.5 hour	R-Y6



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Pride Catering Ltd who are the school meals provider for New Malden Primary are also involved in the long term funding of the project and will purchase crops from the schools allotment which will be used in the schools meals so the children will eat the fruits and vegetables of their labour.

Crops will also be used in Home Economics and school cookery classes in the new year.



Quadron feels that:

"Every child should know how to grow plants, fruits and vegetables, so that they can be empowered to make a difference in the future"



A set of class lesson guides is given on the next few pages.



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Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 1

Lesson 1 Sowing Seeds

What are we growing?

Tomato

What depth do we need to plant the seed?

Sow seed on soil surface with light covering of vermiculite

What do we plant the seed in?

Seed Compost and Vermiculite

What things do we need to do, to get the seed to grow or germinate?

Heat Put the pot in a plastic bag to act like a greenhouse and keep inside to trick the plant that it is spring.

Light Put the seed on the windowsill

Water Water the plant when compost starts to dry

Nutrients The seed compost provides all necessary nutrients for root growth

How long will the seed take to germinate?

7-10 days depending on Heat / Light / Water and Nutrients.

What month of the year would you normally sow tomato seeds?

March / April

At what size would you normally plant out the seedlings into your allotment?

Approximately 20cm tall

What months of the year would you normally harvest tomatoes?

July / December



New Malden Primary School Case Study

Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 2

Lesson 1 Sowing Seeds

What are we growing?

Sweet Pepper

What depth do we need to plant the seed?

Sow seed on soil surface with light covering of vermiculite

What do we plant the seed in?

Seed Compost and Vermiculite

What things do we need to do, to get the seed to grow or germinate?

Heat Put the pot in a plastic bag to act like a greenhouse and keep inside to trick the plant that it is spring.

Light Put the seed on the windowsill

Water Water the plant when compost starts to dry

Nutrients The seed compost provides all necessary nutrients for root growth

How long will the seed take to germinate?

7-10 days depending on Heat / Light / Water and Nutrients.

What month of the year would you normally sow pepper seeds?

March / April

At what size would you normally plant out the seedlings into your allotment?

Approximately 10cm tall

What months of the year would you normally harvest peppers?

July / October



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Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 3

Lesson 1 Sowing Seeds

What are we growing?

Broccoli

What depth do we need to plant the seed?

1cm deep drills then fill in hole with seed compost and vermiculite.

What do we plant the seed in?

Seed Compost and Vermiculite

What things do we need to do, to get the seed to grow or germinate?

Heat Put the pot in a plastic bag to act like a greenhouse and keep inside to trick the plant that it is spring.

Light Put the seed on the windowsill

Water Water the plant when compost starts to dry

Nutrients The seed compost provides all necessary nutrients for root growth

How long will the seed take to germinate?

7-10 days depending on Heat / Light / Water and Nutrients.

What month of the year would you normally sow broccoli seeds?

April / June

At what stage of development would you normally plant out the seedlings into your allotment?

5-6 leaf stage

What months of the year would you normally Harvest broccoli?

January onwards



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Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 4

Lesson 1 Planting Sets

What are we growing?

Onions White

What do we plant the sets in?

Deeply cultivated and well drained soil in sunny position with application of well rotted manure.

Why do we plant onions in rows?

Easy when weeding, if crops are grown in rows you know what is the crop and what are just weeds.

Which way up do I need to plant my Onion sets?

The furry end is the root and the pointed end is the shoot. The shoot needs to point upwards and be showing above the soil line.

How deep do I plant the onion sets?

Plant up to 3cm deep so the tip of the shoot can be seen above ground. Make sure you don't plant upside down!

How far apart should I plant my onions sets?

Plant approximately 12cm apart

What month of the year would you normally plant onion sets?

October / December

What months of the year would your onion be mature to pick?

May / June

What happens when frost warning is given?

Keep an eye on the weather forecast. If the temperature is going to go below zero it is important that horticultural fleece is put over the onions and garlic so the new shoots are protected.

What other things do we need to protect against?

Birds.. They are very tempted by the new shoots, each year group needs to design and make their own bird scarer for their plot !!!!



New Malden Primary School Case Study

Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 5

Lesson 1 Planting Sets

What are we growing?

Onions Red

What do we plant the sets in?

Deeply cultivated and well drained soil in sunny position with application of well rotted manure.

Why do we plant onions in rows?

Easy when weeding, if crops are grown in rows you know what is the crop and what are just weeds.

Which way up do I need to plant my Onion sets?

The furry end is the root and the pointed end is the shoot. The shoot needs to point upwards and be showing above the soil line.

How deep do I plant the onion sets?

Plant up to 3cm deep so the tip of the shout can be seen above ground. Make sure you don't plant upside down!

How far apart should I plant my onions sets?

Plant approximately 12cm apart

What month of the year would you normally plant onion sets?

October / December

What months of the year would your onions be mature to pick?

May / June

What happens when frost warning is given?

Keep an eye on the weather forecast. If the temperature is going to go below zero it is important that horticultural fleece is put over the onions and garlic so the new shoots are protected.

What other things do we need to protect against?

Birds..They are very tempted by the new shoots, each year group needs to design and make their own bird scarer for their plot!!!!



New Malden Primary School Case Study

Malden Manor Primary School
Allotment Garden Project
Year 6

Lesson 1 Planting Sets

What are we growing?

Garlic

What do we plant the sets in?

Deeply cultivated and well drained soil in sunny position with application of well rotted manure.

Why do we plant garlic in rows?

Easy when weeding, if crops are grown in rows you know what is the crop and what are just weeds.

Which way up do I need to plant the garlic sets?

The furry end is the root and the pointed end is the shoot. The shoot needs to point upwards and be showing above the soil line.

How deep do I plant the garlic sets?

Plant up to 3cm deep so the tip of the shoot can be seen above ground. Make sure you don't plant upside down!

How far apart should I plant my garlic sets?

Plant approximately 12cm apart

What month of the year would you normally plant garlic sets?

October / December

What months of the year would your garlic be mature to pick ?

June

What happens when frost warning is given?

Keep an eye on the weather forecast. If the temperature is going to go below zero it is important that horticultural fleece is put over the onions and garlic so the new shoots are protected.