

# Chisenhale Primary School

## GROWING IDEAS



The Edible Playground was started in 2010 by parent, Cassie Liversidge who dreamed of transforming the overgrown "storage area" into an outdoor classroom where children could learn where their food comes from. Growing takes place on two sizeable plots - one in the playground and another on the rooftop. Gardening Club is two days a week and a family after school club is every Friday.

### Who Does The Gardening?

All children participate from Nursery up to Year 6. A local gardener runs practical gardening lessons and the Outdoor Classroom Committee, made up of parents, teachers, the School Chef and the Head, meets termly to plan events and projects.



### Eating & Cooking

Pupils take the produce to the School Chef to use in school meals. The children have grown wheat and made bread from the flour and the produce is also used in family cooking sessions.

### National Curriculum

The School Produce Sale is embedded in the curriculum as children learn about marketing, advertising and product design.

### Funding

Stalls at school fetes, a Capital Growth grant, some corporate funding and the school has received a lovely donation of seeds from Church of Bures.

### Top Tip

Get a team of parents and teachers behind you and you'll find food growing really rewarding.

### Successes

The school has enjoyed thousands of tomatoes. Broad beans and parsley have been particularly good this year. Chisenhale has also reached Level 5 in the RHS school gardening scheme and received £500 in gardening vouchers.

### Challenges

Parents and teachers water the garden during the holidays but they had trouble with a cheeky pigeon that decided to nest in a planter full of wheat! Luckily the offspring flew off just before the wheat was ready to harvest.

### Whatever next

A new Cooking Club and growing pumpkins for the Westminster Show.



### What we Grow

Lettuces	Peppers
Edible flowers	Cucumbers
Herbs	Carrots
Tomatoes	Radish
Onions	Raspberries
Beans	Strawberries
Peas	Blueberries
Potatoes	Broad beans



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