

CASE STUDY

THORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

IDLE, BRADFORD

Thorpe Primary School is a one form entry school situated in the Bradford East area of the city within the village of Idle. It was one of the first Edible Playgrounds in the city and was designed to enhance the hard surfaced playground at the front of school and flow through to the green garden at the back.

The staff at Thorpe Primary were looking to develop outdoor learning on their grounds and felt that an Edible Playground would provide many opportunities for this and once completed, they had big plans which included - inviting members of the community such as residents from the nearby care home who they work closely with as well as parents and businesses who support the school with fundraising events.

They had also planned to start a gardening club and use some of the produce grown either for cooking lessons, in the school kitchen or to sell at a school 'Farmers' Market'.



BEING ABLE TO USE THIS AREA DURING LOCKDOWN WAS BENEFICIAL TO CHILDREN AND STAFF IN TERMS OF THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING.

**MRS DEBBIE COOKSEY,
HEADTEACHER**

However, with lockdowns due to covid-19, these plans had to be put on hold. Instead, the Edible Playground remained open for key workers and vulnerable children and was used for many activities such as building minibeast hotels and various art work. They also got stuck in with planting vegetables and seeds and enjoyed picnics in the garden!

Since reopening to all children in September 2020, each class has had a day in the garden with one of our partners 'Grow to School'. The children have enjoyed these sessions and staff are keen to ensure that similar activities and learning are continued next year. Year 5 recently harvested onions and lettuces and look forward to digging up and eating the rest of the vegetables they are growing.





HAVING SOME BEDS/PLANTERS ON THE PLAYGROUND HAS ENABLED CHILDREN TO BECOME INVOLVED DURING PLAYTIMES AND LUNCHTIMES.

WE REALLY HOPE THAT NEXT YEAR THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO THE ACTIVITIES AND HOLD THE EVENTS THAT WE ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

**MRS DEBBIE COOKSEY,
HEADTEACHER**



TREES FOR CITIES

Trees for Cities is the only UK charity working at a national and international scale to improve lives by planting trees in cities. We get stuck in with local communities to cultivate lasting change in their neighbourhoods – whether it's revitalising forgotten spaces, creating healthier environments or getting people excited about growing, foraging and eating healthy food.

Since 1993, we've planted over 1.2 million urban trees while working in partnership with local authorities and landowners to create a healthier, greener world to live in!

GET INVOLVED!

Get stuck in with one of our projects and leave a lasting impact on your community.

Join our campaign #GenerationTree to keep planting for future generations and sign up to our volunteer mailing list on our website to hear about the latest opportunities.

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1032154

020 7587 1320

INFO@TREESFORCITIES.ORG

TREESFORCITIES.ORG

FOLLOW US

@TREESFORCITIES

