

# TREES FOR SCHOOLS

## CONNECTING CHILDREN WITH NATURE



## TRANSFORMING URBAN SCHOOLS INTO HEALTHY GREEN OASES

Our award winning work in schools involves transforming school grounds into greener and healthier places to be. We specialise in innovative design, high-quality planting and landscaping, and inclusive engagement of the school community.

By working in partnership with children and schools, we reimagine and redesign playgrounds; introducing trees, forest gardens, food growing, outside classrooms and woodland play areas. Our approach ensures sustainable impact through supporting teachers through training, practical workshops and resources for a full academic year.

### WHY?

School playgrounds are often heavily tarmacked and devoid of nature and fail to provide the essential relief from the noise, pollution, and heat stresses of city living. Children have an instinctive need to engage

with nature and evidence shows that positive climate action such as tree planting, alongside learning and playing through nature all support positive mental health and wellbeing, creative engaged learning and lifelong connections to nature.

“ ONE CHILD DIDN'T SETTLE IN CLASS BUT SEEING THEM OUTSIDE AND GETTING INTO PLANTING – THEY HAVE TRANSFORMED. IT'S REALLY GREAT TO SEE.

TEACHER



TREES  
FOR CITIES

# OUR PROGRAMMES

## HEALTHY PLAYGROUNDS

A redesign and transformation of the whole school site, incorporating a mix of design features. This can include food growing, tree planting and the creation of outside learning zones and play areas.



### EDIBLE PLAYGROUNDS

Interactive fruit and vegetable gardens that give children the opportunity to learn through food growing as part of their everyday school experience.

### PLANTING HEALTHY AIR

Installing green infrastructure to mitigate the effects of harmful air pollution in school playgrounds.

### TREES IN SCHOOLS

Planting trees in school grounds to give children the opportunity to experience tree and woodland-based play and learning.



### SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS

Our Growing Among Trees initiative underpins all our projects, which includes a full academic year of on-the-ground teacher training and school engagement activities to build school community, teacher confidence and promote sustainability.





# OUR IMPACT

Our Trees for Schools programme enables children to connect to nature for health and wellbeing. We promote healthy eating, support schools to tackle air quality, empower pupils to take meaningful action in response to the climate crisis and increase the biodiversity of school grounds, all the while supporting schools to teach outside in nature.



**THE EDIBLE PLAYGROUND HAS BEEN AMAZING FOR INCLUSION. CHILDREN THAT DON'T RESPOND IN THE CLASSROOM SETTING COME OUT TO THE GARDEN, GET INVOLVED, THEN CAN GO BACK AND CAN WRITE SO WELL ABOUT WHAT THEY DO IN THE EDIBLE PLAYGROUND, WHEN NORMALLY THEY WOULD STRUGGLE WITH LITERACY.**



TEACHER



## WHAT WE OFFER

-  URBAN SCHOOL TREE PLANTING
-  SCHOOL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT
-  URBAN PLAYGROUND LANDSCAPE DESIGN
-  HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING
-  INSTALLATION OF LEARNING AND PLAY FEATURES
-  TEACHER TRAINING AND RESOURCES



# GET IN TOUCH

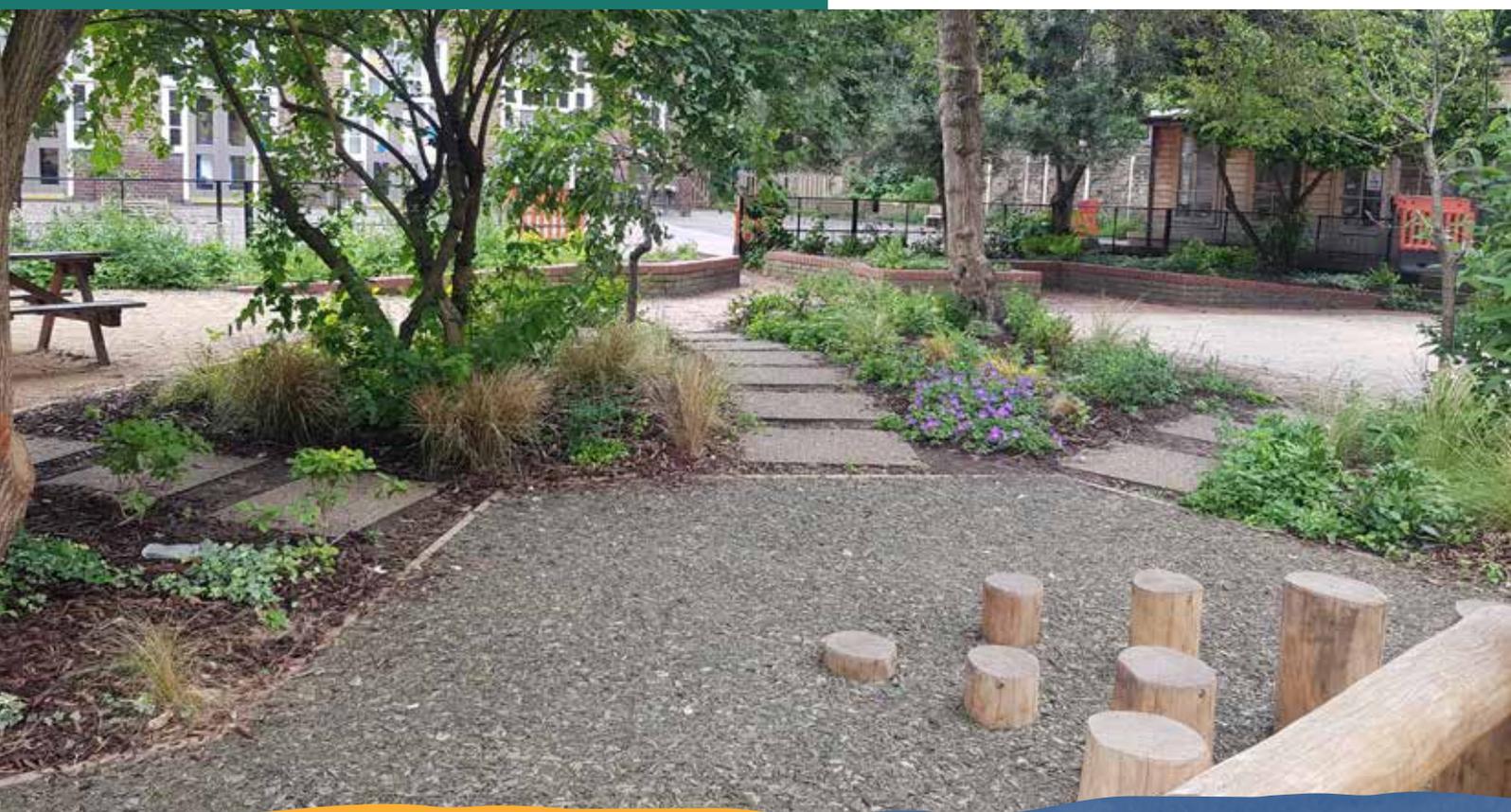
**ARE YOU A SCHOOL, LOCAL AUTHORITY, MULTI ACADEMY TRUST OR FUNDING PARTNER KEEN TO LEARN MORE?**

We work with state maintained schools in urban areas across cities in the UK. We prioritise areas that have been identified as towns and cities with high social-economic, nature or health deprivation and locations with low access to green space and high pollution levels. By working in these areas, we can help provide green and healthy environments for all school children across the UK.



**LEARNING OUTDOORS IS SO TOTALLY ENGAGING FOR THEM! THEY CAN LOOK DIRECTLY, FEEL IT, DISCUSS IT. IT GIVES THEM A SENSE OF BELONGING IN THE NATURAL WORLD – THIS IS FOR EVERYBODY. NATURE PROMOTES EQUALITY.**

**HEADTEACHER**



## ABOUT TREES FOR CITIES

**TREES FOR CITIES WANTS TO ENABLE AND INSPIRE A NEW GENERATION OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WHO ARE BOTH RESOURCED AND MOTIVATED TO PLANT, PROTECT AND PROMOTE URBAN TREES.**

## CONTACT US

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