

Growing & Caring for the Outdoors

Foundation Stage

- Children will demonstrate a ‘caretaking mindset’, ensuring they ‘Leave a place better than you found it’, following all outdoor activities. (GCO 1)
- Children will use natural resources and environments respectfully and follow the principle of ‘fallen first’, when learning and playing outdoors, demonstrating care for all living things. (GCO 2)
- Children will select and use appropriate equipment to care for their immediate environment and their personal belongings. (e.g. litter picking and welly cleaning) (GCO 3)
- Children will sow seeds, make simple observations (including the use of age-appropriate vocabulary) and use their senses to describe their produce when tasting. (GCO 4)

Years 1 & 2

- Children will demonstrate a ‘caretaking mindset’, ensuring they ‘Leave a place better than you found it’, following all outdoor activities. (GCO 1)
- Children will use natural resources and environments respectfully and follow the principle of ‘fallen first’, when learning and playing outdoors, demonstrating care for all living things. (GCO 2)
- Children will select and use appropriate equipment to care for frequently used environments and store their personal belongings and shared play resources tidily. (e.g. litter picking, welly storage and playtime equipment) (GCO 3)
- Children will prepare the soil, sow seeds, water, thin out seedlings and weed, when growing a variety of vegetables. (GCO 4)
- Children will harvest crops, tasting / using the produce when cooking. (GCO 5)

Years 3 & 4

- Children will demonstrate a ‘caretaking mindset’, ensuring they ‘Leave a place better than you found it’, following all outdoor activities. (GCO 1)
- Children will use natural environments respectfully and follow the principle of ‘fallen first’, when learning and playing outdoors, gathering and storing resources when they are plentiful, and demonstrating care for all living things. (GCO 2)

- Children will select and use appropriate equipment to care for a variety of environments and store personal belongings and shared play resources tidily (e.g. litter picking, sweeping, watering, welly storage and playtime equipment). (GCO 3)
- Children will plant bulbs to create attractive, spring displays. (GCO 4)
- Children will maintain existing bee-friendly plants (e.g. lavender) and sow bee-friendly flower seeds for pollinators (e.g. wildflowers, cornflowers, nasturtiums, pot marigold), creating colourful summer displays. (GCO 5)

Years 5 & 6

- Children will demonstrate a ‘caretaking mindset’, ensuring they ‘Leave a place better than you found it’, following all outdoor activities. (GCO 1)
- Children will use natural environments respectfully and follow the principle of ‘fallen first’, when learning and playing outdoors, gathering, organising and storing resources when they are plentiful, and demonstrating care for all living things. (GCO 2)
- Children will independently select and use appropriate equipment to care for a variety of environments, organise and care for shared equipment and play resources (e.g. litter picking, sweeping, watering, weeding, welly storage and playtime equipment). (GCO 3)
- Children will prepare the soil, sow seeds, water, thin out seedlings and weed a variety of vegetables, (supporting younger (Y1&2) children with the same activities). (GCO 4)
- Children will develop new plants by taking cuttings, and propagating plants from runners. (GCO 5)