

Oxspring Primary School

Gold & Category Winner

Overall Impression

What a joy to enter this school garden to see it buzzing with happy children engaged in many different activities. These children are all instrumental in choosing what they do and what to grow. They are very knowledgeable and some are developing good leadership skills.

As horticulture is included in the curriculum the whole school is involved, and there is good support from the parents with community involvement. It is totally chemical free with the children making their own solutions for pest and weed control, and even publishing a leaflet about it. Emily, who leads the gardening, is wonderful in all aspects of what she does, giving up so much of her own time. She is also extremely good at obtaining funds and grants for larger projects of which there are many. All the planting is well maintained and labelled. The produce is of a good standard and was used in the Eton mess for us to taste - delicious! The garden is self-sustainable, through the sale of produce.

Judges feedback on areas for consideration:

- The children are essential to this garden and it is hoped that as the younger ones progress through the school they learn from the older children who are all so knowledgeable and enthusiastic.
- The very good record of progress in the garden is a valuable asset and should be continued.
- The standard of gardening is very with good results in spite of the difficult weather conditions and this need to continue
- There are some changes due to take in the school which will affect the garden but there plans to ensure the garden is maintained to its high standard.
- Well done to you all. Keep it up.

