

Energy Gardens

Education Strategy

Aim:

Objectives (as committed to funder): Bespoke school sessions (1 per site) 1500 children benefiting.

Approach: We will offer 50 bespoke sessions (majority classroom based and some site based).

Schools:

We will target primary schools but will ensure provisions for secondary also. Primary will be a focus because of the direct route to decision makers, the curriculum links, as well as the likelihood to engage with offsite trips.

There will be three levels of engagement, Tier 1, 2 and 3.

Tier 1 schools (engaged) are likely to receive multiple sessions. They could take responsibility for a plot on site where possible and/or will be engaged with the energy garden site directly. We will target key stations for the Tier 1 schools including: Kensington and Olympia, Hampstead heath, Crystal Palace, Bronsbury Park and any other stations where schools are in close proximity (Google mapping will be used to guide recruitment). We will aim for 5 Tier 1 schools with the highest level of engagement and a longer term commitment.

Tier 2 schools (active) will take part in at least one workshops (classroom or on site) and will be aware of events at the energy garden space. We will invite all of these schools to link with their local energy garden and provide opportunities for them to engage longer term. We will aim for 20 Tier 2 schools.

Tier 3 schools (aware) will be aware of events at the energy garden space, and will be offered workshops alongside other schools and invited to events and workshops taking place. We will invite all of these schools to link with their local energy garden. We will aim for a further 25 Tier 3 schools.

50 schools will be contacted in total, and offered services. We expect a varying degree of engagement (5 tier 1, 20 tier 2 and 25 tier 3).

Methodology

Engage local schools with the purpose of:

- a) Learning about urban gardening, climate change, and green space
- b) Learning about renewable energy (with a focus on solar)
- c) Learning about the link between the above two
- d) Engage schools with their local overground energy garden

We will offer curriculum linked workshops (both classroom and site based). Workshops will be developed throughout August, but a summary is provided below:

Workshop 1 – Classroom based, Science

- Intro to green space, gardening and why it's important
- Intro to renewable energy and why it's important
- Intro to Energy Gardens, what they are, where their local one is and how schools can get involved.
- The science behind energy and green space....why grow plants, how to grow plants, how energy is generated, how it impacts our environment - curriculum linked.
- Practical group activity – creating something schools can contribute to the energy garden (as well as to their school): e.g seed growing/ solar activity/ wind turbines

Workshop 2 – Classroom based, Arts

- Intro to green space, gardening and why it's important
- Intro to renewable energy and why it's important
- Intro to Energy Gardens, what they are and where their local one is and how they can get involved.
- Practical activity – creating something schools can contribute to the energy garden banner/bunting/ garden sign.

Trip – Site based, Geography

To take place during reasonable weather and to coincide with build and design works. Activity on site would depend on stage of garden development but could include:

- Scoping/surveying session
- Planting/Growing
- Taking their creations to the site (banners/signs/turbines/solar)
- Pedal powered smoothie bike (using produce).

We will also invite schools to events organised by the community. We will ensure ratios and risk assessments are adhered to. We will target 5 key sites and 5 Tier one schools.

Competition – this will be offered to all schools to encourage their participation and awareness. Create a banner/bunting/garden sign/poster for the space. Winners will receive a free 'stop frame animation' session for their school, and solar related prize.

Staffing

Strategy and Budget: Danielle

Delivery: Sarayu, Project Officer and Project Assistant

Communication

External Communication (lesson plans, competition and brochure) to be within Energy Gardens brand and to be approved by all partners.

Communication with Project Lead (Michael Bury) in relation to status of energy gardens and trips.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The project is required to evaluate the following:

- a) 80% of project participants feel more connected to their local community (events/trip)
- b) 70% of children would want to visit the energy garden again (events/trip)
- c) 90% of children are aware of where their food comes from
- d) 50% of children have an improved understanding of solar energy
- e) 80% of children would like to get engaged in the project long term

We will measure this with a 'hands up' survey at the end of classroom workshops.

Pictures – photos will be taken at schools where full photo consent has been gained.

Anecdotal evidence – quotes will be collected throughout sessions.

School surveys – a feedback survey will be sent to teachers after workshop delivery.