

Growing skills checklist



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Name

Name of school

Tool skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can use a trowel to make planting holes							
I can use a dibber to make planting holes							
I can use a hand fork to remove annual weeds							
I can use a hoe to remove annual weed seedlings from an unplanted area							
I can use a hoe to remove annual weed seedlings from inbetween crops							
I can use a spade to dig soil							
I can use a spade to single dig soil							
I can use a garden fork to remove perennial weeds							

(continued) Tool skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can use a garden fork to prepare soil							
I can use a rake to level soil							
I can use a rake to create a fine tilth for sowing							
I can use a leaf rake to rake leaves							
I can use secateurs to prune							
I can prune apples and pears							
Construction skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can put together raised bed or compost bin kits							
I can build raised beds or compost bins from timber.							
I can make plant supports or structures from willow							

Equipment Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can use a watering can with rose, if appropriate, to water plants							
I can use a measuring stick to space plants or seeds							
l can use a wheelbarrow							
I can use a hose to water							
Planting Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can mark a straight, taught line using string							
I can make a straight, level drill to appropriate depth for seed sowing							
I can plant a potato							
I can sow large seeds evenly and accurately such as broad beans and French beans							
I can sow medium seeds evenly and accurately such as spinach and courgette							
I can sow fine seeds evenly and accurately such as tomato, leek and lettuce							

(continued) Planting Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can make a paper pot							
I can fill a container ready for sowing							
I can use a sieve to cover fine seeds with compost							
I can water to sufficency a prepared seed tray/container after sowing							
I can write labels							
I can prick out seedlings into their own pots							
I can remove a young plant from its container							
I can plant a young plant into the soil and firm in							
I can plant a tree and stake appropriately							

After-Care Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can net soft fruit to protect from birds							
I can provide some protection from slugs and snails							
I can remove aphids							
I can mulch a planted area							
I can cover a planted area to protect from frost							
I can thin seedlings							
I can water seedlings							
l can water established plants							
I can support plants with pea sticks, canes or netting as appropriate.							
I can tie plants to canes as necessary							
I can pinch out plants such as sweet peas, broad beans and tomatoes							

Harvesting skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can dig root crops, such as potatoes, parsnips and carrots, without damaging							
I can pick peas and beans without damaging the plant							
I can harvest leafy crops such as lettuce and spinach without damaging the plant							
I can collect seeds from plants for future use							
Other skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can put on my own gloves and put them away as a pair							
I can clean my tools after use							
I can conduct hand texturing tests of soil to determine soil type							
I can conduct a simple pH test to determine soil pH							
I can propagate simple cuttings, such as stem or tip cuttings of rosemary and sage							

Planning Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can measure the garden site							
I can draw a plan of the garden							
I can draw a scale plan of the garden							
I can choose plants to grow							
I can choose where plants should grow based on my knowledge of rotation and conditions							
Mentoring Skills	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
I can train others in some of the skills above							
I can train others in most of the skills above							
I can train others in all of the skills above							