

HORTICULTURE POLICY

What is Horticulture education?

The Horticulture curriculum sets out a broad framework of essential knowledge and skills from which our pupils can develop Horticulture skills adapted to the needs of our own students and communities.

Horticulture at Ravenshall aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills and understanding to:

- Learn practically how to plant, grow, maintain and harvest crops
- Learn how to utilise the harvest, through cooking and enterprise projects
- Identify the impact and effect of Horticulture with other curriculum subjects
- Achieve accreditation in up to 10 AQA Unit Awards in Horticulture, which can provide students with an option to take on further studies, or form a basis for a career in this field.

Through our broad and balanced curriculum pupils will undertake:

- Working safely in a Horticulture workplace
- Introduction to basic Horticulture
- Soil maintenance
- Planting bulbs
- Raising plants from seeds
- Growing flowers for containers and hanging baskets
- Potting up/transplanting a plant
- Planting a small vegetable garden
- Harvesting, cooking and selling crops
- Taking part in a gardening enterprise

Ravenshall has several large outside spaces dedicated to Horticulture. On-site we have an allotment with raised beds, a fruit tree orchard, polytunnel, well-equipped tools and appropriate clothing. In addition we have areas all around school both in Primary and KS3 accessible to all pupils to develop Horticulture. Links with Design and Technology, Food Technology, Science, Art and Post 16 Enterprise, helps pupils recognise and understand the importance and impact of Horticulture in everyday life.

Horticulture is an option for KS4 pupils to choose as part of their 'Pathways' learning. It is an option which is both useful and practical that can lead to accreditation which students can achieve as well as enjoy. It is also taught in KS3 as an Enrichment Activity, as well as through a whole school topic – 'Growing' and 'Keen to be Green' to foster interest and develop learning at a younger age.