



North Ridge High School

Grow It Policy



Curriculum Policy for Grow It 2020

Equality Statement

Equalities Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 has been drawn up to tackle inequality and prevent discrimination against people on the basis of 'protected characteristics'. It brings together several existing laws and aims to make understanding the law simpler. It also introduces a new single public sector equality duty, which requires public bodies to actively advance equality.

All policies at North Ridge take account of this Act.

UNICEF Rights of The Child

Rights Respecting Schools

In the 1940s, the United Nations produced the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was adopted in 1948. This Declaration applies to children as well as adults. However, growing awareness of the rights of children led to calls for a dedicated children's human rights treaty.

Article 29: Goals of education

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 13: Freedom of expression

Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

INTENT

Purpose/Rationale

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of *Grow it* taught in our school.

Teaching *Grow It* in schools encourages students:

- To provide pupils with experiences that encourages an appreciation, awareness and knowledge of the natural environment.
- To learn to respect and care for their own local environment.
- To abide by rules and set standards of behaviour, to work cooperatively in groups and to respect each other.
- To promote environmental awareness and encourage sustainability. Pupils are taught about respect and responsibility for the world around them. Both the children and adults are encouraged to respect their environment and to be aware of conservation issues of the wild area around them. If appropriate,

reclaimed, recycled and sustainable resources will be used to maintain and develop our Grow It site

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Overview

Grow It helps pupils connect with nature and the source of their food and teach them valuable Grow It concepts and skills that help integrate with several subjects, such as maths, science, art, PE, health and wellbeing, Cook It and Ask it as well as personal and social responsibility.

(The Royal Horticultural Society 2019)

Aims

Gardening helps pupils in wide range of benefits such as:

- Improves physical and mental wellbeing
- Builds life skills such as confidence, resilience, teamwork and communication
- Enhances literacy, numeracy and oracy skills
- Enriches the entire curriculum from science, maths and geography - to art, design and languages
- Teaches about the environment and the importance of biodiversity and sustainability
- Helps young people engage with their surroundings better and develop a sense of responsibility

(The Royal Horticultural Society 2019)

IMPLEMENTATION

Teaching & learning

All KS3 Grow It is taught on rotation per term. In KS4 students it is taught through the Vocational Curriculum. Grow It as part of the Thematic curriculum. Each term, a new theme is taught and students are given opportunities to learn about growing food that relates to the theme. Students to be encouraged to learn through observation and investigation.

KS5 students Grow It lessons have an emphasis on use of recycled materials and environmental issues. Regular tending and maintenance of school growing spaces which is to be extended to the bungalow garden.

- Students are to be encouraged to use a variety of media which will include: open ground, pots, troughs and bags.
- Students will be given opportunities to gain experience and observation skills by school visits e. g. to parks, garden centres.
- Teachers will use a wide range of resources and approaches should be used, catered to the pupil's needs.

- Teachers will embed the principles of 'Ask It' into teaching and learning in *Grow It* (creative and critical thinking).
- Teachers will provide opportunities for the wider community of school, governors, parents and carers to inform and have access to our schools *Grow It* programme through open days throughout the year.

Planning

Planning will be in line with the school planning policy. It will cover all the topics and teachers will follow the guidance provided. Planning will have clear learning objectives, success criteria and be suitably differentiated. All students learning styles will be taken into account.

Safety

- We aim to teach *Grow It* in a safe environment.
- During *Grow It* lessons, students are to be properly supervised.
- They should be made aware of the potential danger of gardening tools or heat in summer.
- Students should be shown how to use gardening tools safely.
- Students should wear protective gloves during practical *Grow It* lessons.

IMPACT

Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

- Pupil will use critical and creative thinking skills when producing their *Grow It* work.
- Pupils will be able to analyse and evaluate their work and understand how to further develop their work.
- Pupils will understand the relationship between planting, growing, harvesting and eating.

Assessment, Recording and Reporting

KS3, KS4, KS5, Experiential and ASD:

Grow It is recorded, reported and assessed by the following:

- B-squared assessment tool integrated with other subjects
- Photographic evidence for ROAs
- Teacher observation of pupils' work
- Self-assessment
- Classroom Monitor (KS5)
- Pupils' end of year report (through DT)

Staff Development

Key Stage staff to meet once a term to share ideas and resources on teaching *Grow It*

Peer mentoring and observations are well used to support the development of staff skills in teaching *Grow It*.

Art co-ordinator to attend trainings and share ideas with the rest of staff.

Resources

A wide variety of resources should be made available.

The school allotment and different gardening media to be used in the classrooms during winter season.

Topic, teacher resources, pictures, posters and reference books are in folders or boxes kept in the class Baker stock cupboard.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Head teacher, Assistant Head, the Grow It Co-ordinator, Assessment Co-ordinator and teachers, monitors Grow It having identified priorities, the SLT and Grow It Co-ordinator construct an action plan that may form part of the School Development Plan. This forms the basis for any monitoring activities and will clearly identify when, who and what is to be monitored and how this will take place e.g. classroom observation, planning scrutiny, work sampling etc.

Review

Date approved by Governors: 27/1/2020

Date of review: Jan 2022