



audit of the school grounds

You can use this RHS audit in conjunction with the
'starting a school garden resource'

| Subject/Question | Action | Who will be in charge of developing this action |
|---|--------|---|
| Project planning | | |
| Have you got support of the whole school for the garden? | | |
| Is there a project manager? | | |
| Has the school got an action plan, if so is the garden part of it? | | |
| Has the location for the garden been decided (see starting a school garden)? | | |
| Have other schools with gardens been visited for ideas? | | |
| Do any of the skills needed exist in the school community: parents, governors or the friends/PTA? Skills such as gardeners, garden designers or builders. | | |
| Is funding being sourced? | | |
| Has a map of the proposed garden site been established, indicating services and aspect? | | |
| Has a survey been made of the site to find out what already exists (hard landscaping and plants) and have these items been added to the map/plan (above)? | | |
| Has someone checked whether any legal, technical, safety guidelines or school policy documents exist that relate to the garden? | | |
| Has a budget been produced? | | |

The Garden

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| Have the pupils discussed what they want in the garden? | | |
| Has a thorough investigation been carried out of the site? This should include: How big is it? What type of soil do you have (clay, sand or silt, etc)? What is the pH of the soil? How much of the garden is in light or shade? How much moisture is there – in other words is the soil free draining or does it get waterlogged? Are there any permanent features, which you have to work around? | | |
| Has an entrance to the garden been established? | | |
| Has the route of the paths been decided and what they will be made of? | | |
| Is a shed and/or a greenhouse required? | | |
| Is a pond going to be added? | | |
| Is there going to be a fence around the garden? | | |
| Where are the planting beds going and what shape and size will they be? | | |
| Will chemicals be used? | | |
| Has sustainability been addressed? Will there be • a water butt? • a compost heap? | | |
| Can anything be recycled or reused? | | |
| Have pupils and visitors to the garden with special educational needs been considered? | | |

www.edibleplaygrounds.co.uk

Edible Playgrounds is an initiative that has been created by **Screen Bites** www.screen-bites.co.uk and is now supported by **Dorset Cereals** www.dorsetcereals.co.uk

