**Local and Global Community**

“The school is the Eco-hub for 32 other schools locally, in Africa and in New Zealand. These links give pupils a true understanding of the word ‘community’. “

2012 Ofsted report, Edwalton Primary School, Nottingham

“Parents volunteer and learn new skills alongside their children and the school benefit by developing their parent partnerships.”

Hunslet-St-Mary’s Primary School, Leeds

“In a similar way, schools are able to use food growing as a means of gaining support from and involving the local community.”

“Support for food growing is most likely to come in the form of material resources (44% of schools report this type of support) and human resources (38% of schools).”

“The impact of food growing in schools stretches beyond the immediate school community into the wider community and brings benefits for local, national and international organisations involved. It helps to strengthen community relationships and integrate public, business and voluntary and community organisations. It can create resources for the community and opportunities for interaction and skills development”

Food Growing In Schools Taskforce: Main Report March 2012 **[Read the full report](http://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/organicgardening/food-growing-in-schools.php)**

“We have won several national garden centre awards for community involvement. We gain lots of positive press coverage and our reputation for working with schools is growing... it is well known in the industry.”

Fermoys Garden Centre, Devon

“If students cultivate a love of the countryside, a love of being outdoors and a love of working with animals then they can develop into better citizens, increasing their concept of personal responsibility and understanding the value of the community and its environment.”

Lesley Ellis Head of The North School, Ashford, Kent

“The Farm is also used by our Family & Community Engagement Department as a way of reaching the local community. We run many sessions on the Farm for adults, families and community groups. The Farm also hosts volunteer sessions twice a week where we have up to 30 volunteers at a time. We have lunch time clubs and after school clubs and every holiday we provide free holiday camps at the school.”

Phoenix High School Farm & Learning Zone, Hammersmith and Fulham, London