

# AN AGROECOLOGICAL APPROACH TO EDUCATION





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# CHEFS IN SCHOOLS



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## Education

Education and co-creation of knowledge is at the heart of what we do. Our farmers and facilitators work with students, teachers, local community and volunteers to help shape the farm, making it more resilient and relevant.



## Synergies

Understanding **natural relationships** is key to creating a healthy farm that can demonstrate a model that is strong in the face of **climate change**. For example, understanding that clover adds nutrients to soil so we don't need artificial fertilizer or understanding that woodchip encourages fungi that feed our vegetables.



## Diversity

**Diversity** in plants and people. As farmers we understand that nature loves **diversity**. We grow a **diverse** range of crops, we encourage **biodiversity** on the farm. We encourage our customers to enjoy a **diverse** diet and promote **diversity** on the farm.



## Efficiency

Innovative agroecological practices produce more using less external resources. We try to **create** as much of what we need on the farm as possible so that we do not need to buy in. For example, we take leaf litter from the school maintenance team and turn it into compost. We also sell our vegetables to school families so that they don't need to travel to buy their fresh produce.



## Recycling

From turning school food waste into compost to recycling nutrients to storing rainwater on the farm, we try to **mirror nature**, which wastes nothing.



## Resilience

We believe that our farm is **resilient** in many ways; it is **resilient** to the impact of climate change, our local community is more **resilient** with us there, and we are more **resilient** to outside factors in the market like Covid-19 and Brexit. We encourage resilience amongst our children and young people through mindfulness and outdoor learning.



## Human and Social Values

The farm is about all living things, **humans included**. We aim to protect and improve livelihoods and social wellbeing through our education and community programmes.



## Culture and Food Traditions

We understand the **power of food** to educate and unite and believe it can be a vital tool when integrated into the school day. Our food goes straight to the canteen, to our box scheme customers and to restaurants, supporting healthy eating habits and growing food that is accessible.



## Responsible Governance

We aim to run everything at GROW, from the farm through to lessons, using **responsible, fair** and **transparent systems**.



## Circular Economy

Our farm aims to **reconnect** consumers and buying, allowing you to buy your food directly from the person that grows it, creating **local solutions** that can be replicated on a **global scale**.



# AGROECOLOGY



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A photograph of children in a classroom setting. In the foreground, a girl with brown hair is focused on eating a piece of orange. To her right, another girl with blonde hair is also eating an orange. A third child's hands are visible, holding a blue tray filled with whole and sliced oranges. On the table, there are two blue dictionaries with 'Thesaurus' and 'Dictionary' visible on their covers. Several whole oranges and orange slices are scattered on the table. The background shows other children and classroom furniture, creating a busy, educational environment.

SCHOOLS CAN  
BE PART OF THE  
SOLUTION