

## ActivGardens Learning and Skills Programme

Flexible days and times (2-hour sessions morning or afternoon). Example activities offered are shown below. Schools will be able to select up to five activities per half-term course.

Activities	Detail	Gatsby Benchmarks
Planting and cultivation	Students will plan, cultivate and plant a plot, selecting and sowing seeds and planting out. They will tend their plot and understand what it means to nurture a plant from seed to harvest.	5, 6
Nature conservation	Understanding our local natural environment and what we can do to help nature on our doorsteps - building and maintaining wildlife habitat, bird-watching, and identifying insects and plant life.	3, 5
Beekeeping Session	Our community apiary offers the ideal opportunity for young people to get close to the exciting world of bees – either viewing from our hide or suiting up for a closer encounter. The session will help them understand the needs of healthy insect populations in the context of the wider environment.	5, 6
Campfire cooking	Campfire cooking and den-building will support the development of the individual to understand risk, problem-solve and work safely as part of a team.	3
ActivSheds construction and carpentry	A chance for young people to have a go at making simple items such as bird boxes and mini-beast motels, mentored by our ActivSheds' team members	5, 6
Team Building games	We have a number of fun outdoor team-building games to support the development of the individual, promote confidence and build self-esteem.	5, 6
Careers Session with a difference	Fun activities designed to teach young people about the world of work, employability, and prepare them for progression in an inspiring outdoor environment	2, 3, 8
Employer session	A workshop or demonstration run by a local business - for example, plumbing, roofing, carpentry	5
Enterprise project	Planning and preparing items for sale at our events/ community markets and pop-up cafe, for example, soup, jams, jellies and chutneys, craft items, specialist herbs/ plants.	4, 5, 6

### Frequently Asked Questions

- **Are your staff DBS checked?** – Yes – all our staff and supervisory volunteers are DBS checked and receive training in first aid, fire safety, health and safety and safeguarding, incorporating Covid-19 guidelines.
- **What about Health and Safety?** – Young people will be fully inducted in health and safety at their first session. Covid-19 risk assessment will be adhered to at all times and sessions will be managed appropriately.
- **Is there an age limit?** – Activities are aimed at young people aged 11+.
- **How many young people can take part?** – An ideal group size is 4-6, depending on Covid-19 restrictions, but different children can participate over the half-term course. The cost of the course will stay the same even if fewer children attend a session, as it costs us the same to run.
- **Who is the programme aimed at?** – Everyone will benefit from the course, but we are especially keen to engage young people who are disengaged from education, or other students in vulnerable situations/ SEND.
- **Do young people need to be accompanied?** – Yes, they will need to attend with required support.
- **Can we attend for a one-off visit?** – Yes of course! We can offer one half-price taster session to your school.