

Otford Primary School

Author	Sara Spellman
Site Name	Otford Primary School
Site Management	School Grounds Improvements Plan
Site Details	<p>Address: High Street Otford Sevenoaks TN14 5PG</p> <p>Grid reference: 51.312847, 0.187826</p> <p>Otford Primary School is situated within the Darent Valley, close to the River Darent in North West Kent.</p> <p>The school grounds contain a large playing field, a willow dome sculpture, a trim trail, a small raised bed</p>

area, a large pond. The school has a perimeter of established deciduous trees, many engulfed in ivy.

The school is keen to promote the outdoor space as an extension to the classroom. By making the following improvements to the site, this will:

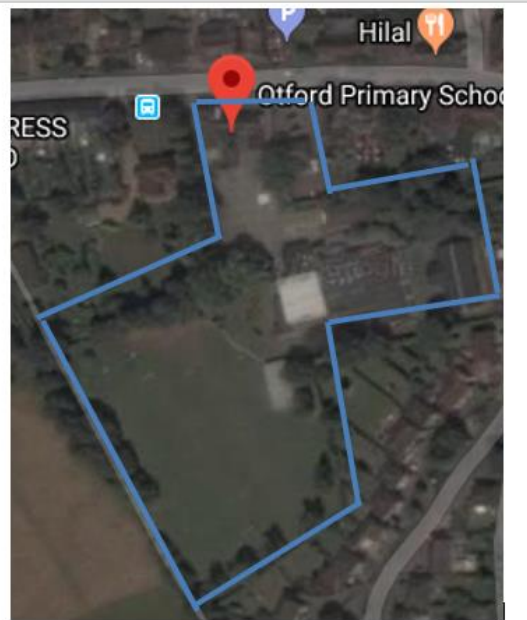
Improve the current features to be more productive for wildlife

Encourage all staff to take advantage of teaching outdoors and stretch the curriculum to outdoor subject matter

Promote the biodiversity levels of flora and fauna

Allow children to access further education during lunchbreaks, adventuring and using green, flora rich spaces.

Map of site



Outline of roles, responsibilities and resources	When	Area	Action	Who
	Summer 2019	Pond	Remove over hanging branches	Tree surgeon
	November 2019-bulb, wildflower planting and erecting nature trail	Grounds-nature trail	Requesting lecterns from MIS Planting up nature trail with wildflowers-with the children too Bulb planting and installing lecterns and hedgerow for the nature trails with the volunteers.	NWKCP, MIS, school
	Summer 2019	Pond & allotment	Interpretation for pond and allotment areas	NWKCP, interpretation company & Marie (school teacher)
	November 2019	Main building	Installing 3 wireless birdboxes	NWKCP and School
	November 2019	Allotment area	Plant wildflower bulbs under the hedgerows Put in the log pile habitat	NWKCP
	Late spring 2019	Allotment area	Children help to plant the climbers to provide biodiversity and screening over the fence	NWKCP & School

	November 2019	School grounds	Standard bird boxes x 10 placed on the perimeter trees	NWKCP
Understanding the heritage	Where	Who	When	Activity
	School grounds	School children during lessons run by teaching staff NWKCP during planting sessions	Late Spring- November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora – learn to identify seasonal species, their value and relationship with pollinators • Children learn what companion species go together and how to care for them
	School grounds	School children, during lessons that are relevant and during break times, lunchtime supervisors to monitor	Summer 2019-onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bug hunting – Children will be involved during breaktimes as well as lesson times, learning to identify different invertebrates

	School grounds/classroom	School as a whole, during lesson time, led by teaching staff	Autumn/Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird watching – learn to identify species, their life cycles and interactions with other species • Take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch
	School grounds/classroom	<p>School children during science lessons</p> <p>NWKCP to support during planting sessions, giving a wider knowledge</p>	Spring/Summer every academic year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat surveys – identify the different species in each habitat • Learn about habitats and adaptations
	School grounds-pond/classroom	School children, led by teachers and lunchtime supervisors	Spring /summer every academic year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will have access to information during breaks as well as during lessons to learn about the flora and fauna in

				<p>their pond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will have kit to organise pond dipping sessions, catching, monitoring and recording it, year after year
	School grounds, nature trails	School children, teaching staff, lunchtime supervisors	All year round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Again, children having access to nature during their own time, means the minutes of extra nature and biodiversity learning time are increased • The nature trail offers several different species of flora to study, record and understand • It will offer habitat and food to further species

						of fauna that the children can interact with during their own time or class time.
Managing Risk	Type of Risk		Level of Risk	Action		
	Children/staff/volunteers incurring injury from tools		Med	All volunteers and children will be given advice and guidance on how to use tools and how to keep safe.		
	Vehicles on site causing damage		Low	Site is on protected school grounds and work vehicles will be parked in car park and all tools and materials transported by hand/wheelbarrow		
Action Plan and Costs	Area of improvement	Description of works	Work Completed by	Estimated time of works	Resources required	Total cost
	Pond& allotment	Interpretation boards for the pond area and the allotment area to describe in text and pictorially the ecology that uses the area, life cycles, flora	NWKCP & Interpretation company	August-October 2019	Postcrete x 4 Interpretation input, design and erecting lecterns	£2125

		and fauna and their benefits				
	School field	Nature trail. Planting trees, fruit hedges, bulbs and wildflowers for maximum biodiversity, attracting many different fauna throughout the year. Installing nature trail lecterns) with tailored flora & fauna content for the trail, created by NWKCP (paid for by school PTA	NWKCP Men in sheds PTA School children Volunteers	October-December 2019	All flora listed Trowels Spades Postcrete x 5 Water Hand tools Lecterns Biodiversity content	£1266
	Whole site	Installing bird boxes. Wireless camera ones on buildings and standard ones	NWKCP Men in sheds	October 2019	Bird boxes Drills&bits Wire Screws Wire cutters	£555

		on the trees surrounding the field.			ladder	
	Allotment area	Increase flora diversity. Planting up one bed with wildflower seeds, shade loving wildflowers under the existing hedge and native climbers across the fence for screening and to continue the flora connection.	NWKCP School children Parent volunteers	Late spring- October 2019	Plants Trowels Seeds	£350
	Pond area	Tree works. Limbs over the pond need to be removed to increase light and reduce leaf litter	Tree surgeon	Summer 2019	-	£702

	Next to the pond area	Wildflower strip. This will become the bug hunting area, wildflower seeds sown, rotting log discs added, grass left long.	NWKCP	October 2019	Wildflower seed logs	£10
	Waste area near Nursery	Sow the area with wildflower seeds. Install enough seats for an outdoor classroom, using logs- hopefully tree surgeon can provide these for free. Install rope bridge. Install stepping stones that are log effect, so the children can gain access to this	NWKCP Tree surgeon	October 2019	Seeds Ropes Tree effect slabs 30 Log seats/ 15 log benches. Postcrete x 30 bags Water Sand	£782

		area without getting muddy/crushing plants				
	Whole site and staff	To support all staff in how to manage the physical aspects of the site changes, to offer supportive services such as guided pond dipping sessions, bug hunting, nature craft sessions/clubs for the children. Once for the next two years after installation. This is in order to cement the learning and changes, to	NWKCP	Dates to be arranged between NWKCP and the school, to be most convenient for the school, fitting in with topics and experiences to embed the learning. 2020-2021	-	<p>Site visits- (1 per year for 2 years) £132</p> <p>Pond dipping sessions for two years (4 hours per year for 2 years) £264</p> <p>Biodiversity challenge/bug hunting/ bespoke session to the schools current needs to enable them to learn better (2 per year for 2 years)</p>

		encourage the 'outdoor' space to become part of everyday curricular learning.				£132
					Total Estimated Cost:	£6318
Monitoring and Maintenance	Maintenance will be demonstrated to school by NWKCP at time of works completion. Further site monitoring and maintenance will be the responsibility of the school from point of project completion.					

