

Horticulture at Elemore Hall School

Intent

Horticulture is a practically driven subject making it accessible to all pupils. This subject enables pupils to acquire a valuable range of practical, work related skills in plant management. In addition, pupils will become more confident individuals as they develop transferable practical skills in communication through working with their peers and presentation work providing learners with a variety of methods for delivering their work. The course is taught as an accredited subject in Key Stage 4.

Implementation

Horticulture will be a timetabled course for all Key Stage 4 pupils.

Pupils will complete a mandatory unit Understand the Basic Principles of Plant Science and will also complete an additional unit Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors. These units will be assessed through practical activities and the production of written portfolios of work, which will allow the pupils to work both collaboratively and independently. Successful completion of both units will result in pupils achieving the BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture, which is broadly equivalent to a GCSE.

To facilitate the teaching of the course the school will make use of our allotment area and three polytunnels. Where appropriate the wider school grounds will be used to support units.

Impact

Successful completion of this course may enable pupils to move on to the BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Horticulture which is broadly equivalent to two GCSEs (possibly within school) or provide the foundation to move onto a level 3 Technical Level qualification in Horticulture or similar course, an apprenticeship or direct employment. We know from experience that a number of our pupils transfer to land based courses for their post16 study so our offer is a good preparation.

Overview

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
10	Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors	Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors	Understand the Basic Principles of Plant Science	Understand the Basic Principles of Plant Science	Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors	Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors
11	Introduction to Animal and Plant Biology	Introduction to Animal and Plant Biology	Introduction to Animal and Plant Biology	Introduction to Animal and Plant Biology	Tractor Driving	Tractor Driving

Accreditation

BTec level 2 Certificate in Horticulture	BTec level 2 Certificate in Horticulture
Understand the Basic Principles of Plant Science	Participate in Horticultural Crop Production Outdoors
This unit aims to provide learners with an understanding of the principles of plant selection, and how these can be applied in practice	This unit aims to provide learners with an understanding of the principles of how to participate in horticulture crop production outdoors, and how these can be applied in practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P1 identify the organs of plants • P2 describe the main tissues of plants • P3 identify the functions of leaves, stems, roots and flowers • P4 summarise the processes involved in growth and development • P5 summarise the processes involved in plant reproduction • P6 define the terms: ◇ ephemeral ◇ annual ◇ biennial ◇ perennial as they relate to plant life cycles • P7 describe the characteristics of stages of plant growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the soil and cultivation requirements of outdoor crops • describe the maintenance requirements of outdoor crops • prepare sites to receive outdoor crops • sow and plant crops outdoors • maintain healthy and safe working practices • maintain the growth and development of plants outdoors • harvest outdoor crops • prepare and grade for sale outdoor crops • prepare cropping schedules for outdoor crops, including plant raising for specific crops • prepare contingency plans for outdoor crops
Assessment is through practical observations and portfolio of written work against subject specific criteria	

Additional Support

Access to the school allotment and wider school grounds is available throughout the course.

Links with evening activities

In the summer months, there are after school activities centred around horticulture. These give KS3 pupils the opportunity to take part in growing their own produce. KS4 pupils can also take part in the activities to either enhance their lesson based learning or to engage in a side project.

Enrichment

The school organises a range of educational visits to support the Horticulture curriculum throughout the year. These include visits to plant nurseries and farmers markets.

