

# School engagements



## What did we do?

We worked with several schools across Cardiff to plant trees on public sites and started the process for future tree planting on school grounds.

## Who did we involve?

We worked with 40 schools across Cardiff, representing 23 of the 29 Cardiff wards.

## How and why did we do it?

We started our work with schools by asking them to fill in a questionnaire to indicate if they would like to plant trees on their grounds or participate in external planting events.

Over 30 schools have expressed an interest in planting trees on their school grounds. We will be surveying their sites and designing planting schemes with pupils over this spring and summer ready for planting from autumn onwards. In addition, we donated 150 native hedgerow and other saplings to three schools and one nursery this season, St Paul's Primary (Ely), Marlborough Primary (Penylan), Cardiff High School (Cyncoed), and Grangetown Clych Meithrin (Grangetown).

9 schools were also able to join us for tree planting events across Cardiff, totalling around 340 volunteer hours, including Kitchener Primary (Riverside), Rhiwbeina Primary (Rhiwbina), Ysgol Ton Yr Ywen (Heath), Moorland Primary (Splott), and St Francis Primary (Ely). During some of the planting events we also helped pupils survey the sites and warmed up with some "tree yoga".

We hope to engage many more schools in tree planting and surveying next season and will reshare form for schools to express their interest in getting involved with our project.



Pupils from Moorland Primary taking part in "tree yoga" at Tremorfa Park, Splott tree planting event (11.02.22)

## What do we hope to achieve?

Reaching young people is an important aim of our project and interacting with schools will be a key platform for delivering our planting targets whilst engaging directly with future generations.

As with community groups, schools will be at different stages of their "greening" journey, with some having lots of experience with outdoor activities and other requiring more support. We are happy to provide a "light touch" to "in depth" support with schools in collaboration with other parks and external nature projects to give them the tools they need to design, plant and care for trees.

This will enable more schools to have the confidence and skills to create and maintain wildlife friendly habitats on their sites and teach pupils about caring for nature.

*"I felt happy because I enjoyed planting the tree. I am looking forward to seeing the pink blossom in the spring on the cherry tree." – pupil from Kitchener Primary, Riverside (Kitchener Gardens tree planting event, 01.12.21)*

*"I enjoyed planting the tree because it is helping the world by trapping the CO<sub>2</sub> to reduce global warming." – pupil from Kitchener Primary, Riverside (Kitchener Gardens tree planting event, 01.12.21)*

*"We really enjoyed planting the crab apple trees in Parc Y Pentre. We will keep a close eye on them. Hopefully, in the not too distant future we will be able to make some crab apple jelly." – pupil from Rhiwbeina Primary, Rhiwbina (Parc Y Pentre tree planting event, 01.12.21)*



Pupils from Fitzalan High School at Sanatorium Park, Canton tree planting event (14.03.22)



Pupils from Kitchener Primary with Coed Caerdydd art plates they made for the tree planting event at Kitchener Gardens (01.12.21)



Pupils from Ysgol Pwll Coch at Sanatorium Park, Canton tree planting event (14.03.22)

