

# Garden Volunteer Role

## DESCRIPTION

The Garden to Table garden sessions offer children hands-on learning in all aspects of the garden, from growing and nurturing right through to harvesting their own produce for use in the kitchen. The children will be briefed by the Garden Specialist at the start of each session about the session ahead and tasks and learning involved. Your role is one of overseeing that the children are on the right track as they set off to do their gardening tasks.

Let them do the work themselves, as they are not only building on their literacy, numeracy and scientific skills but also developing their motor skills, learning about safety in the garden, and how to be part of a team.

### AT THE START OF THE CLASS:

Before the children arrive you:

- Listen to the Garden Specialist's brief about the session
- Assist the Garden Specialist with preparation/set up where needed

### GARDENING WITH THE CHILDREN

- Oversee what the children are doing, and discuss what they are doing and why, guide where necessary
- Ensure the children share the tidying-up, making sure that tools are put away and the garden is left clean and tidy
- Don't tolerate poor behaviour – if a student is disruptive, uncooperative or rude, seek assistance from the class teacher or Garden Specialist

### SAFETY IN THE GARDEN

- Observe your group to make sure safety rules are being followed, intervene or remind where/if needed. These include:
  - o Wearing covered shoes and gloves
  - o Safe tool use
  - o Consideration of others in the garden space

Safety rules and posters should be prominently displayed in the teaching area (if feasible) or in the garden sheds.

### SHARING THE FOOD

- Sit amongst the children to share the food you have grown and prepared as a team.
- Role model good manners such as how to use cutlery, how to share and offer food, and making conversation at the table..