



# A8 Where to grow plants



This activity uses the checklist in T5 (based on B4.3) to help you review a shortlist of possible sites for a growing area. This process will help inform final decisions; it should actively involve garden organisers and pupils to encourage ownership and understanding of the sites and required action.

## Resources

- Copy of T5
- Clipboard/s, pen and note paper

## Activity

- 1 Write a list of possible sites for a growing area. For each site, work through each point on the checklist (T5).
- 2 Discuss each point, discussing the scope and/or importance of each point and required action. Add points relevant to your site not on the checklist.
- 3 Some points will require research (eg soil tests; see A9) and speaking to people with specific knowledge of the sites (eg school site manager).
- 4 When the checklist is complete for different sites, begin comparing and selecting sites, arriving at a shortlist or recommendation.

## Extended activities

- 1 Prepare a report of your findings and distribute widely for consultation, eg decision makers, catering staff, local expert, governors, staff, pupils, etc.
- 2 Design the layout of your growing area, deciding what features you want based on the opportunities and limitations of your chosen site. Draw scale diagrams. Consider organising a competition for the new layout and build the winning design.

<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	Be careful when exploring possible growing areas. In particular, look out for prickly plants and weeds; wet soil and pools of water; hidden objects in long grass, and garden structures. <i>See also Health and Safety Guidelines (Section B3.3)</i>
<b>Activities on DVD</b>	A9 Testing soil and improving fertility T5 Checklist for where to grow plants
<b>Further information</b>	B4.3 Where to grow plants