

**Action plan:**

**Timeline:** When will you be able to start your project? How often will your team meet? Are there any key dates to share for the project?

*We would like to start the project as soon as we have secured the funding.*

*We have had our first meeting by zoom to discuss the action plan.*

*We plan to have the area cleared and the sleepers in place before the children return to school (32/8/2023). This will depend on the availability of volunteers over the summer holidays. After that we will meet on a fortnightly basis either in person or by zoom.*

*Having the area cleared will mean that we have a blank canvas and consult with the children on their return to school about their thoughts and ideas for the space.*

*We would like to have most of the planting done by the end of term one.*

**Budget:** You don't need to share exact prices, but please share how you're planning to spend the seed funding & what costs you're anticipating to get your project up and running:

- *Sleepers - we will need these around the edge of the garden. The current sleepers are in a state of disrepair. Everedge might be a more durable alternative to sleepers <https://www.everedge.ie/product/easybed/>*
- *Paint - we would like to paint the sleepers black as a nice contrast to the green of the plants*
- *Woodbark to create a path through the area*
- *Plants - to populate the garden*
- *Seeds so children can grow plants from seed e.g. Sunflowers*
- *Gardening equipment - troughs, garden gloves*
- *Water feature - solar powered water feature possibly to be avoided due to the risk of Legionnaires disease*
- *Musical and play features for the children (e.g. chimes, fairy doors etc)*

**Impact:** How will your community benefit from this project? Do you have any measurable goals for your project, such as the number of people that will participate? Are you hoping to spread knowledge or increase interest in a specific subject?

*The school community (404 pupils, 55 staff and parents) will benefit from an attractive peaceful garden. It will also provide children the opportunity to learn the skill of gardening from the experienced gardeners who have volunteered for this project.*

*A sensory garden stimulates all senses: sight, touch, taste, and sound, all through the use of different plants and materials. This garden will allow the children from our 5 autism classes to*

*explore their senses in a safe and stimulating environment. Other children in the school will also benefit from this sensory stimulation.*

*We would also like to use the garden to spread information about the importance of pollinators and providing plants suitable for pollinators. We will include signage in the garden.*

**Location:** If your project requires physical space, have you decided the location? Do you have all necessary permission and permits to carry out your project at the chosen location?

Yes

### **Additional questions**

**Please answer the questions below as much as you can.**

**Growing Space will review the information you provide before your kickstart call.**

**This will help save time and get you started straight on your project once you receive your seed funding!**

1) Please take a few pictures of your site (at different time of the day ideally and when the sun is out).























2) Please write here a small description of what you would ideally like to achieve

*The provisional plan is a sensory herb and flower garden at the front of the school. We would also add plants like peas, strawberries and raspberries to provide harvesting and tasting opportunities for the children. We are also keen to have a garden that is pollinator friendly. We will be trying to attract as many pollinators as possible.*

*We are keen to have an attractive, playful area that can be enjoyed by the pupils, staff and school community. It is an ideal location to be shared by the maximum number of people. It is also a good location for a sensory garden as many of the children from our ASD classes spend their breaktimes out the front with the 6th class.*

3) Please confirm the age group of children you are working with and that will be involved in the implementation of your project

*The children will be aged between 4 and 12.*

4) Please give us the estimate of the number of children that your new Mini Growing Space will benefit (can be directly and indirectly)

*404 children. As the area is the entrance to the school all of the children will pass it twice daily. There will also be opportunities for children to be directly involved in the planning, planting and maintenance of the garden. We anticipate that children from our special classes for ASD will also be involved. Around 70 children use the space around the garden for playtime so they will have more opportunities to get involved.*

5) What activities do you plan to offer that will include your community (other than children) (for instance, parents, neighbours, extended families of children or else, elderly people)

*We have already invited parents and the wider community to be involved in the planning of the project. So far we have had a very positive response. We would like to plan work party days so the wider community can help with the garden from the beginning. Also, there is a bench close to this area so we would anticipate that parents can sit and enjoy the garden. Also, there will be a sharing element to the garden. People will be encouraged to take herbs and crops.*

6) What do you already have in your site that can be reused (material, structures etc)?

7) Water access - please state if you have water access on your site and if you are willing to install a water butt (not obligatory)

*There is access to water and there is already a water butt installed at the school.*

8) Please confirm in writing here that you have permission from a manager or landlord (of the building or head of a school (as necessary) that says that they are happy to make the improvement of their outdoor space and let you lead the project.

*We have the permission of the school principal to do the project at the school and for me to lead it.*