

What is the program?

It is a **three** year program.

Each year there are **three milestones** (Ready, Set & Grow) for the schools to achieve.

Each year **builds** on the previous year.

The partnership approach

Hornsby Shire Council partnered with Northern Sydney Local Health District to deliver the Ready Set Grow program to local primary schools (teachers and students). The program also encourages involvement from parents and the wider community.

Aims and objectives

- Encourage and support the creation of sustainable school fruit and vegetable gardens
- Introduce concepts such as composting, consumption, recycling and healthy eating
- Link to the school curriculum and the environmental management plan
- Run a series of workshops, ensuring schools have the assistance and advice on how to start, maintain and expand a school food garden

For further information contact Waste Education Officers at **Hornsby Shire Council** on **9847 4856** or waste@hornsby.nsw.gov.au or visit our website hornsby.nsw.gov.au/readyssetgrow

Initiative of

Benefits for Council

- Connections and better relationship with schools
- Links waste reduction messages back to the home and the wider community
- Promotes composting and less food waste to landfill
- Increases sustainability within the school

Benefits for schools

- Ongoing support and management from Council
- Making food gardens a sustainable solution via a 'buddy system' for the teachers
- Funding, resources and milestone prizes from Council
- Involving not only the children but the families as well
- Gaining a positive attitude to healthy eating for the children

Gardens
bring everyone
together
students,
parents, teachers
and Council





1 First year

Aim:

- Introduce waste reduction, composting and no-dig gardening
- Link garden and healthy eating to the curriculum

What is involved:

- Introductory workshop
- Action Plan – Waste snap shot, composting, building the garden.
- Follow up support to schools as they carry out the three milestones
- End of year celebration, networking and information session on linking the garden to the curriculum

Ready



Learning about composting

Set



Learning how to make a no dig garden

Grow



Students with the produce they grew

2 Second year

Aim:

- Increase the number of teachers involved through buddy training
- Expand the knowledge and skills of the teachers involved

What is involved:

- Develop a planting guide to link to seasons and school holidays
- Propagation and advanced composting workshop for teachers to increase their skills and confidence in teaching their buddy
- Schools to train a 'buddy' teacher
- Follow up support to schools as they carry out the three milestones
- End of year celebration, networking and information session on linking the garden to the curriculum



Revamping last years garden



Growing from seeds and cuttings



Sharing the harvest with the school community

Ready

Set

Grow

3 Third year

Aim:

- Extend / increase the gardens
- Increase the number of 'buddy' teachers
- Expand the knowledge and skills of new buddy teachers

What is involved:

- Workshop for teachers to increase their skills and confidence in teaching their buddy
- Schools to train two more 'buddy' teachers
- Follow up support to schools as they carry out the three milestones
- End of year celebration, networking and information session on linking the garden to the curriculum

Ready



Training a buddy helps make the program sustainable

Set



Sharing with the wider school community

Grow



Milestones are celebrated along the way