

14.05.26

Dear Parents/ Carers,

At Western Primary School, we believe that our playground should be more than just a place to burn off energy, it should be a space where our children connect with nature and learn to care for our planet.

We are thrilled to announce our new "Grey to Green" Playground Project, a sustainability-focused initiative to transform our outdoor space.

Driven by the Children's Vision

We did not start with a catalogue; we started with our students. Working alongside the National Education Nature Park and the Red Kite Rewilding Initiative, we asked the children what they wanted from their limited space, and their ideas were inspiring. They did not ask for more plastic or metal; they asked for:

- **Greenery and shade:** Trees and climbing plants to bring life to the concrete.
- **Biodiversity:** Green roofs, bug hotels, a living wall and bird feeders to welcome local wildlife.
- **Calm and peace:** Dividing up the space using natural materials, rain gardens and being able to listen to nature, whilst allowing games to continue in the main playground.
- **Sustainability in action:** Rainwater harvesting for our garden spaces and encouraging the children to grow alongside the planting.

How You Can Help

To turn these student dreams into reality, we are looking for partners who share our commitment to the environment. We are seeking support in three ways:

1. **Financial Sponsorship:** Cash donations will go directly toward purchasing sustainable materials and professional installation of eco-friendly equipment.

Western Primary School Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0NA
☎ 01423 502737 ✉ office@wes.rklt.co.uk www.westernmps.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs J Slack

 **Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub**

Red Kite Learning Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.
Company number: 7523507. Registered office: Red Kite office, Pannal Ash Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 9PH.
Our Privacy Notices can be found via www.rklt.co.uk/privacy-notice.

2. **Materials & Expertise:** Are you a gardener, or a business with access to reclaimed timber or drought-resistant/marginal plants? We would love to put your resources and skills to use.
3. **Materials costs:** Are you able to offer us a discount, reduced rate or donate some building materials for our project. We need timber and topsoil.

Why Partner with Us?

For our local businesses, this is a fantastic way to show your commitment to CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility). All sponsors will be featured on our "Green Wall of Fame" at the playground entrance and highlighted in our school newsletter and social media.

By supporting this project, you are not just building a playground; you are helping us teach the next generation that even in a small space, we can make a big impact on the environment.

Plans afoot

We have already started work; the living wall at the front has been planted and designs have been created to enable flexible teaching areas and movable planters so that we can offer different activities to our children at all times of the day.

Take a look at our plan below, our scheme is ambitious and we are keen that the programme of works begins as soon we have the funds to do so. We will be funding this project as a community. You will see the flexible space down the side playground and the addition of green roofing in the back playground and in Early Years. Additional planters are placed to offer quieter spaces for those children who find the playground a busy, noisy place. Early years will have access to a water butt and new planting pockets for their vegetable growing.

As part of the scheme, we were able to design a rain garden in memory of Mr Simon Pacey, this funding has already been raised by our community, and we have been proud to welcome children into that space.

Western Primary School Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0NA
☎ 01423 502737 ✉ office@wes.rklt.co.uk www.westernmps.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs J Slack

 **Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub**

Red Kite Learning Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.
Company number: 7523507. Registered office: Red Kite office, Pannal Ash Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 9PH.
Our Privacy Notices can be found via www.rklt.co.uk/privacy-notice.

We are keen to partner with sponsors to move our project forward and enhance our outdoor learning areas for our children with a well-being focus with a strong connection to nature.



Should you need to discuss any of the above further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Claire Magill

Claire Magill

Deputy Headteacher
MagillC@wes.rklt.co.uk

Claire Edwards

Claire Edwards

Sustainability Lead
EdwardsC1@wes.rklt.co.uk

Western Primary School Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 0NA
☎ 01423 502737 ✉ office@wes.rklt.co.uk www.westernmps.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs J Slack

 **Learning Trust Alliance Teacher Training Teaching School Hub**

Red Kite Learning Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales.
Company number: 7523507. Registered office: Red Kite office, Pannal Ash Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 9PH.
Our Privacy Notices can be found via www.rklt.co.uk/privacy-notice.