# FOOD ACTIVISM IN THE SCHOOL YARD: BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN SCOTLAND

Glasgow, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 Ramshorn Theatre

# **#FoodActivism**















# Welcome

Introducing the team

- Laura Colucci-Gray
- Claire Cassidy
- Donald Gray
- Kirsten Darling
- Stephen Day
- Kirsten Leask
- Laura Nisbet
- Bob Donald
- Sharon Hunter

# What is food ...?

- A chemical compound which makes the stuff of our bodies
- Central component of human survival, society and culture;
- A product of the intimate *relationships* between humans and the Earth.
- It reminds us that the Earth provides what we stand on, feed and depend upon.





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# ... why does it matter now?

## Competition for land, water, energy – the trident of sustainability

"Agricultural production is limited by the increasing scarcity and diminishing quality of land and water resources. Climate change is increasingly affecting yields and rural livelihoods, while agriculture continues to emit greenhouse gases (GHGs)".

(FAO, Alternative pathways to 2050. Rome: 2018)

## Growing concerns about the quantity and quality of the food we eat:

"Persistent poverty, inequality and unemployment constrain access to food and hamper the achievement of food security and nutrition goals"

(FAO, Alternative pathways to 2050. Rome: 2018)

## **Growth of diet-related diseases**

"requiring to address the "triple burden" of malnutrition: undernourishment, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity, especially in younger children"

(Astrup & Bügel, Int J Obes 43, 219–232 (2019); Public Health England, 2019).

# Food Waste

"food is discarded at every point along the food chain: on farms and fishing boats, during processing and distribution, in retail stores, in restaurants and at home"

("U.S. Food Waste Challenge: FAQ's." USDA, June 2013. https://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/faqs.htm

Key Messages:

- Environmental sustainability and food security go hand in hand;
- <u>But</u> food security is not only about greater production; it is linked to **power and inequality**, ruling over the uses (and abuses) of the land;

# Food activism: An opportunity to:

*Interrupt* the pattern of unsustainable consumption of food.

*Give communities 'a voice'* on what matters to them. **Food sovereignty:** "when food is of, by, and for the people" (Robert, 2008)

*Engage* in *food activism* by re-connecting people's habits and behaviours with concerns for the land, and with the origins of food;



# Food activism...and school gardens

Addressing food production alongside a re-thinking of the means and purposes of education:

- To acquire awareness of the origins and distribution of food;
- To support mental heath and wellbeing;
- To gain a 'voice' and make decisions about what matters for people;
- To make 'real' decisions about the different uses of the soil;
- To build the knowledge and skills that for many centuries have guaranteed human survival within a <u>changing world.</u>

Nury, E. et la., 2017; Ohly, H., et al., 2016; Passy, R., Morris, M., & Reed, F. (2010); Gray et al., 2020.



Mayor Muriel Bowser

# Office of the

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INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT School IPM

## School Gardens

School Gardening provides students a living laboratory where they can observe, discover, experiment, and learn from real life experiences. It encourages students to become active participants in the learning process.

## **Project Scoping**

Planning for a school garden is crucial for a successful project. Ask yourself:

- What is the goal of the garden?
- What kinds of plants are appropriate for our location?
- What is the orientation of the proposed garden site in relation to the sun and wind?
- Who will maintain the garden and how will it be maintained?
- What will be your water source, and just as important, how is water drained from your site?

#### LEARN MORE ...

- <u>School Garden</u>
  <u>Activities and</u>
  <u>Education</u>
- <u>Guide for Creating</u> <u>School Gardens as</u> <u>Outdoor</u> <u>Classrooms (pdf)</u>
- <u>Choosing the Right</u>
  <u>Plants for Your Site</u>
- <u>So You Want to</u> <u>Start a School</u> <u>Garden? (pdf)</u>

#### Connect With Us 1050 First Street, NE, Washington,

For more information about the OSSE School Gardens Program, please watch this <u>short video</u> , review the <u>School</u> <u>Gardens Program Annual Report</u>, or contact Sam Ullery at <u>Sam.Ullery@dc.gov</u>.

# Opportunities for Scotland?

### What it is

How it works

National Outcomes

Measuring progress

Scotland's Wellbeing report

Sustainable Development Goals

Resources

News and updates

Scottish Government Riaghaltas na h-Alba gov.scot

#### Search

## National Performance Framework

Find information on Scotland's National Performance Framework and how Scotland is performing against it.



Q

The framework is for all of Scotland. We aim to:

- · create a more successful country
- · give opportunities to all people living in Scotland
- · increase the wellbeing of people living in Scotland
- create sustainable and inclusive growth
- reduce inequalities and give equal importance to economic, environmental and social progress

Values

Purpo

The values guide our approach, to:

- · treat all our people with kindness, dignity and compassion
- · respect the rule of law
- act in an open and transparent way

# Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

To give new rights to community bodies and new duties to public sector authorities.

The aspirations of the Act:

- greater participation in local democracy
- increased confidence and skills among local people
- more people volunteering in their communities
- greater satisfaction with quality of life in the neighbourhood
- delivery of better, more responsive services and better outcomes for communities.

# Extracts from the Act

Part 4: Community Rights to buy Land

Part 6: Community rights to lease land from the Forestry Commission Scotland to grow trees and use/or sell the wood.

Part 9: Local Authorities to give access to community groups to land for food growing (including hospitals and schools).

# Our aim...

The long term ambition of this project is to build a **strategy framework** seeking to **develop capacity in the school and the community** to support children and young people to develop sustainable approaches to food production and waste, while making a direct contribution to climate justice, equity and well-being.

# ... and the key tasks:

## Workshop 1:

**Raise awareness** of the ecological, cultural, economic and social dimensions of food as a global sustainability issue, **and how to support young people as responsible producers and consumers**.

# Specifically, we will:

- consider the opportunities offered by real and lived examples of food gardening;
- discuss their place in Scottish education; and
- identify questions which will need to be addressed for future developments.

## Workshops 2&3; Aberdeen: 10.03.2020; Edinburgh: 24.03.2020

**Engage young people in philosophical inquiry** to identify and extend opportunities for teaching, learning and assessment **about food activism and sustainability in the school gardens**.

# Specifically, we will:

- engage young people in discussion about the practical and ethical issues raised by 'food activism' in schools; and
- gain young people's experiences and perspectives on the process of production and consumption of food (from soil to fork)

## Final event, 10.09.2020

• Generate a **shared action plan** for scaling-up school gardens for use across policy, research and practice.

## **Specifically, we will:**

- evaluate aspirations, opportunities and constraints;
- identify short term and longer terms partnerships and collaborations; and
- share materials and resources for teaching, planning and assessment.

# Outline of the day

- 11.05–11.45 **Keynote:** Food as a global issue: debating political, ecological and ethical aspects -Sarah-Jane Conrad
- 11.45 11.55 **Case-study 1:** The experience of food gardens in Laos Ramsey Affifi
- 11.55 12.05 **Questions from the audience**
- 12.05 12.35 **Policy landscape** and opportunities in Scotland (Irina Martin; Kirsten Leask Stephen Day)
- 12.35 1.15 **LUNCH**
- 1.15 1.45 **Activity 1**: What does a school garden look like?
- 1.45 2.00Case-study 2: The Aberdeen School Garden Project (Bob Donald & Donald<br/>Gray)

(Comfort break)

- 2.15 2.45 Activity 2: Design, plan and enact a food growing garden in your schools.
- 2.45 3.15 **Plenary and reflections**: "What do I want to see happening after today..."
- 3.15 3.30 Evaluation and Close

Dr. Sarah-Jane Conrad PH Bern, Switzerland



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## Food as a global issue

**PH**Bern

Pädagogische Hochschule

## Debating political, ecological and ethical aspects

Dr. Sarah-Jane Conrad

School of Education, Berne Universit

## Kate Raworth's Doughnut Modell





© Wals Arjen

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

© Shutterstock

![](_page_20_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Wicked problems

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![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

Note: Greenhouse gas emissions are given as global average values based on data across 38,700 commercially viable farms in 119 countries.

Data source: Poore and Nemecek (2018), Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers. Science, Images sourced from the Noun Project.

OurWorldinData.org - Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems. Licensed under CC-BY by the author Hannah Ritchie.

## © Klaus Petrus

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

© tier-im-fokus.ch

![](_page_24_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_4.jpeg)

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![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### The BI Transformation

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Basic Human Needs**

**Nutrition & Basic Medical Care** 

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

Water & Sanitation

![](_page_27_Picture_4.jpeg)

Shelter

![](_page_27_Picture_6.jpeg)

**Personal Safety** 

![](_page_27_Picture_8.jpeg)

## Foundations of Wellbeing

Access to Basic Knowledge

![](_page_27_Picture_11.jpeg)

#### Access to Information & Communications

![](_page_27_Picture_13.jpeg)

#### **Health & Wellness**

![](_page_27_Picture_15.jpeg)

#### **Environmental Quality**

![](_page_27_Picture_17.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_19.jpeg)

## Opportunity

**Personal Rights** 

![](_page_27_Picture_22.jpeg)

#### **Personal Freedom & Choice**

![](_page_27_Picture_24.jpeg)

#### Inclusiveness

![](_page_27_Picture_26.jpeg)

#### Access to Advanced Education

![](_page_27_Picture_28.jpeg)

# **Incremental Transitions**

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![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)

http://www.leicestercityssp.org.uk/our-programmes/physical-activity-health/change-4-life-our-aims

![](_page_31_Picture_0.jpeg)

# School Garden project in Bern

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

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Lehrplan 🔁

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GRU

#### Bildung für Nachhaltige Entwicklung

#### Leitidee Nachhaltige Entwicklung

Nachhaltige Entwicklung

beinhaltet die Zielvorstellung, dass für die Befriedigung der materiellen und immateriellen Grundbedürfnisse aller Menschen heute und in Zukunft eine solidarische Gesellschaft und wirtschaftliches Wohlergehen notwendig sind. Zur Umsetzung dieser Idee bedarf es vielfältiger politischer, ökonomischer, ökologischer, sozialer und kultureller Entwicklungen. Gerechtigkeit, politische Teilhabe und die Erhaltung der natürlichen Lebensgrundlagen sind wesentliche Bedingungen einer Nachhaltigen Entwicklung. Diese kann nicht für ein Land allein gedacht werden, sondern muss immer auch in einem globalen Zusammenhang gesehen werden. Wie eine Nachhaltige Entwicklung gefördert werden kann, hängt von den jeweiligen ökonomischen, ökologischen, sozialen und kulturellen Verhältnissen in einem Land ab und muss gesellschaftlich ausgehandelt werden. Nachhaltige Entwicklungsprozessen und an der Umsetzung der Entscheidungen beteiligen können.

Nachhaltige Entwicklung ist eine Leitidee für die Entwicklung der Gesellschaft. Sie

Nachhaltige Entwicklung wird oft mit drei Kreisen für die Zieldimensionen Umwelt, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft dargestellt, ergänzt mit den beiden Achsen Zeit (Vergangenheit Gegenwart Zukunft) und Raum (lokal global). Damit kommt zum Ausdruck, dass

- politische, ökonomische, ökologische, soziale und kulturelle Prozesse vernetzt sind;
- das heutige Handeln Auswirkungen auf die Zukunft hat;
  Wechselwirkungen bestehen zwischen lokalem und globalem Handeln.

Abbildung 3: Drei-Dimensionen-Schema Nachhaltige Entwicklung

![](_page_32_Figure_11.jpeg)

Natural Environment, Resources

#### **Gender and Equality**

Health

**Global Development and Peace** 

Cultural Identity & intercultural communication

#### **Economy and consumerism**

#### 29.02.2016

# Thank you for listening

My thanks go to

- Marco Adamina (School of Education, Berne CH)
- Anne-Marie Gafner (School of Education, Berne CH)
- Klaus Petrus (journalist, photographer CH)
- Olivier Riesen (School of Education, Berne CH)
- tier-im-fokus (animal rights organisation CH)
- Arjen Wals (Wageningen University NL)

who have all hugely influenced my presentation

# Case study one

# Ramsey Affifi University of Edinburgh

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

# **Nourish Scotland**

# Irina Martin

![](_page_35_Picture_3.jpeg)
FOOD ACTIVISM IN THE SCHOOL YARD: BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN SCOTLAND



AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE HEALTHY FOOD CONNECTIONS = HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

# About Nourish



Working for a fairer and more sustainable food system.



Public Health



Inequality and food poverty





Building the local food economy



Current focus: Good Food Nation Bill, right to food Urgent need to change our Food System – we can all make a difference, especially children



Be aware of problems



Obesity among children, advertising of junk food, food poverty, disconnection with nature and where food comes from, the environmental impact.



These are global food issues

#### Woodlands Community Garden



#### 2010 Derelict space rescued by the community and transformed into a community garden



#### Community Garden Providing an outdoor space for learning and sharing

#### Children at the heart and building partnerships with local schools and family centres







An afternoon celebrating everything rhubarb. Food, films, talks and cookery demonstrations Enter our great rhubarb recipe challenge Tickets £5 cca.glasgow.com More info 0141 332 2656



Fun ways to involve and engage children with growing, cooking, eating and sharing vegetables

Everyone can be part of change – we just need some space, mud and helping hands



Gardens in schools can become the tool to:

- Connect back with nature
- Know where food comes from
- Find out how food affects the environment
- Learn the impact of our choices
- And the importance of eating food in season
- Learn how to grow and cook vegetables
- Improve general health and wellbeing

#### Learning for Sustainability SCOTLAND

Ag lonnsachadh airson Seasmhachd ALBA

# From abstraction to application

Joining the dots between policy and practice

Kirsten Leask

lfsscotland.org





# A vision for the planet and for Scotland A vision for learning A vision for learners





# 1. A vision for the planet and for Scotland





### A vision for the planet





Learning for Sustainability SCOTLAND

Graphics by Jerker Lokrantz/Azote





# Joining the dots #1: National policy coherence





# 2. A vision for learning





### Who are we? Who do we want to be?

"Our vision is of a flourishing Scotland where sustainable and socially-just practices are the norm.... and our roles and responsibilities within a globally-interdependent world are recognized. Learners are educated through their landscape and understand their environment, culture and heritage; and develop a sense of place and belonging to their local, national and global community, with a deep connection to the natural world. Here, learners will understand the significance of their choices,

now and in the future."

The Report of the One Planet Schools Working Group (November 2012)

lfsscotland.org



### **Beyond salt, fat and sugar**

In Scotland...

- The food and drink industry employs 1 in 5 people
- Food and drink are our biggest exports.
- <u>1 in 4 children live in poverty</u>
- One of the lowest life expectancies in Europe
- <u>65% of adults & 28% of children are overweight</u>
- 1 in 3 of us has experienced mental ill-health
- <u>Social isolation and loneliness</u> is an issue
- Food production supports some of our most fragile rural communities
- Food production has a huge impact on biodiversity, soils and land use
- Litter and marine plastics are a major concern
- Climate change affects us all: agriculture, general transportation, food waste.



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# A global vision for learning

# Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote life-long learning.

4.7 "By 2030, ensure that **all learners** acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development."







### A Scottish vision for learning

#### In Scotland, Learning for Sustainability takes a strategic national approach:

- An <u>entitlement</u> for all learners
- A whole-setting approach.
- Embedded in <u>whole-school self-evaluation</u>.
- Central to the national **Professional Standards** for all teachers.
- Woven throughout the Scottish <u>curriculum</u>.
- Includes school buildings, grounds and policies





### A Scottish vision for learning

"Learning for sustainability (LfS) is an approach to life and learning which enables learners, educators, schools and their wider communities to build a socially-just, sustainable and equitable society.

An effective whole-setting and community approach to LfS weaves together global citizenship, sustainable development education and outdoor learning to create coherent, rewarding and transformative learning experiences."



**Education Scotland** 



# Joining the dots #2: policy coherence across learning

Learning for Sustainability SCOTLAND



Learning for Sustainability SCOTLAND

### Adding value to everyday learning

#### HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Rationing and the impact on physical health.
- Designing a healthy menu based on ration principles.
- The emotional and mental impact of food shortages-how did it feel to eat on rations or go hungry?

#### NUMERACY

- Budgeting on a week's rations.
- Weighing and measuring a ration and working out recipes based on rations; for a single person, a family – or an army.

#### ENTERPRISE

Holding a Wartime Café and war effort fundraiser – complete with music, wartime foods, costumes, and a tea dance!

#### LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- Changes in farming practices as a result of the war and their impact today.
- The impact of food production during and after the war on our urban and rural landscapes.
- Comparing the diets and food customs of the nations involved in the war.
- Foraging for foods and cooking outdoors with wartime technology.

RME

The ethics and impact of the war on the way people ate across the nations involved and immediate post-war food issues.

#### THE TOPIC: World War Two

SCIENCES

to today.

The processing,

preserving and

Digging for Victory:

nutritional content of

food grown then and

methods used compared

transportation of food.

#### LANGUAGES

- Looking behind the slogans: e.g. 'Dig for Victory' - creative writing opportunities.
- Writing from the perspective of a refugee: how it felt to be hungry and homeless.
- Creating a menu in a language used by one of the other countries involved in the war.

#### TECHNOLOGIES

- Changes in farming technology as a result of the war.
- Designing and using wartime farming and food production technology e.g. hand mincer/open-air cooking.
- Preparing, cooking and serving a menu on rations, and creative use of left-overs.

#### EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Designing your own wartime Ministry of Food posters, or packaging labels.

#### Social Studies

- Changes in farming methods during and as a result of the war and their impact.
- How were armies fed and supplied?
- Speaking with those who were there: what was it like to eat during the war?
- The importance of the convoys and other food transportation systems for soldiers and civilians.

# Learning for life: relevant, meaningful, inclusive

#### EXPRESSIVE ARTS

- **Design packaging logos** and an advertising campaign.
- Compose an advertising jingle.
- Write an advertisement script and film/act in same.

#### MATHEMATICS

Manage the advertising and marketing budget.
Calculate the design and production costs.
Manage the income and outgoings.

#### **RELIGIOUS AND MORAL EDUCATION**

Investigate running a business as a social enterprise with proceeds going to a good cause.

- Ensure only ethical and sustainable ingredients are used.
- Investigate planet-friendly packaging options.

#### SOCIAL STUDIES

- Ensure that sustainable and ethical farming practices are used to produce the chosen ingredients, and that subsequent production methods comply with this strategy too.
- Use their knowledge of the local area to suggest possible marketing targets or suitable locations for sales.
- Investigate and compare various media platforms to decide on the most suitable ones for advertising the product.
- **Use** business acumen to establish a successful sales strategy.

#### SCIENCES

THE TASK:

To design and market a

sustainable.

healthy, food

product.

Investigate the possibility of using renewable energies to power production.

Investigate optimal ingredient production methods using a range of soils or other growing media.

#### \_ANGUAGES

Write advertising slogans and a marketing strategy.

Translate the ingredients list and slogans into foreign languages for a global marketing campaign.

#### HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Investigate the nutritional content of ingredients and design a healthy recipe: incorporating mental, emotional and cognitive well-being as well as physical.

#### TECHNOLOGIES

- Compare and contrast traditional and modern production methods. Design a product that can be cooked outdoors and indoors.
- Investigate the use of ICT for marketing and sales purposes, and set up systems to handle customer data.
- > Experiment with graphics to produce eye-catching marketing strategies.
- Establish a product development kitchen to trial and test products prior to sale.
- Design and produce sustainable packaging.



# **3. A vision for learners**





# Learning for the 21st century: hearts, hands and heads

#### Affective

#### **Experiential**

#### **Cognitive:**

Engaging curiosity and our sense of wonder Working directly with a subject: hands-on. Reflecting and learning from the experience



**'For in that order they develop'** – *Patrick Geddes, 1919* 





# 1. Learning where food comes from/understanding global food systems

"The first supermarket supposedly appeared on the (American) landscape in 1946. That is not very long ago. Until then, where was all the food? Dear folks, the food was in homes, gardens, local fields, and forests. It was near kitchens, near tables, near bedsides. It was in the pantry, the cellar, the back yard."

Joel Salatin

Fair trade Malnutrition Local economies **Genetically-modified** Ethics of food waste **Biofuels Learning for Sustainability Corporate dominance Politics** Feeding the world Soil degradation Role of big business Global food system Health and Well-being UN Sustainable Development Goals **Intensive farming systems** Deforestation Flooding Water use **Reliance on fossil fuels Over-fishing Food security Biodiversity** Organic Food distribution Climate change Inequalitv The Rights of the Child Land rights



# 2. Growing & rearing my own food/understanding how my food gets to me

**Global systems** Fair trade Routine antibiotic use Microwaves Intensive farming systems Processing Nutritional quality Preservatives **Transporting our food** Leftovers Artificial fertilisers Supermarkets Pesticides and herbicides Reliance on fossil fuels Ethics of food waste Growing, catching and rearing Takeaways Locally-produced Consumer choice Impact on biodiversity **Sustainably-produced** Seasonal Packaging Plastic waste Freshly-prepared **Buying & selling Preparing food** Social interaction Animal welfare Zerowaste Ethically-sourced Water use Farmers' markets **Aquaculture Ready meals** 

*"We live not by the jingling of our coin, but the fullness of our harvests."* 

Patrick Geddes



# 3. Preparing & cooking my own food/ creating confident consumers

"Health inequalities are the biggest issue facing Scotland just now, because not only are health inequalities a problem but health inequalities are really a manifestation of social inequality. Social complexity – social disintegration – drives things like criminality, it drives things like poor educational attainment, it drives a whole range of things that we would want to see different in Scotland. The more attention we can get paid to the drivers of that situation, the better." *sir Harry Burns, former Chief Medical Officer for Scotland* 

Body image **Emotional health** Farming systems & nutrients **Cognitive ability** Food & mood Locally-sourced Five-a-day Confusing jargon Marketing **Corporate dominance** Heritage crops Good food choices Supermarkets **Choice & availability Loss of variety & choice** Allergens Salt, fat, sugar...and what else? Pesticides Seasonal **Additives** Sponsorship deals Health & well-being **Advertising** Understanding the labels Junk food Fairtrade Obesitv Herbicides Celebrity endorsements Ethical & sustainable **Animal welfare** What's really in my food? Jingles & logos



# 4. Sharing & celebrating my food/food culture: past, present, near and far.

Wild foods Food industry & jobs What's on your plate? Celebrations Traditional technologies Impact on language Food waste How do you eat? Hunter-gatherers Access to food Place names Sugar trade The Clearances Sustainable future Fast food Railwavs **Food skills** Sharing food Impact on landscape **New Scots Seasonality** Forage Indigenous crops **Dining ambience** Industrial Revolution Tea clippers New technologies Feasts & famines **Canals** Supermarkets School dinners Distribution Native breeds Local specialities Local & seasonal Slow food **Slavery** International politics **Nomadic** Food histories Herring fishing Global food cultures Traditional remedies International trade Customs & traditions Adaptation

*"Laughter is brightest where food is best."* 

Irish proverb



### 'Citizens-in-waiting' no more

...changes will need to be political, social and economic, but in all regards these need to be informed by accurate information and critical thinking skills that lead to understanding of the complex interdisciplinary nature of the problems we, and the planet, face.

We need to encourage, respect and cherish the capacity to care and act - whatever age our citizens are – and from the early-years to 18 (and I would argue in Further and Higher Education too). That is a central role of education."

Professor Peter Higgins, University of Edinburgh, March 2019



- What are you doing already?
- How will you embed food-related learning in your practice?
- How will you embed food-related learning in your personal life?
- How will you encourage/enable others to do the same?



# Issues and tensions when teaching climate change in the classroom

#### **Dr Stephen Day**

Head of Division (Education) School of Education and Social Sciences, UWS
• Handling the *complexity* of the scientific concepts and the forms that data take, in relation to climate change and global warming.



• Handling the *complexity* of the *multiple perspectives* which often stem from different groups that hold reasonable yet contradictory points of view regarding the underlying cause or impacts of climate change and global warming.



• Dealing with the competing values that are embodied or espoused by different groups.





- Recognising the limits of our understanding and the need for *on-going inquiry*.
- Supporting pupils' awareness of and ability to recognise bias in all forms of information – developing rational scepticism.
- Helping pupils to understand that climate change is a problem of sustainability that <u>requires more</u> from us than simply reducing carbon emissions or our carbon footprint
- <u>Rather</u>, it requires us to change our mindset (values, attitudes and beliefs), our way of living (food consumption, recycling and waste management) and our level of consumption of our planet's natural resources (building materials, farming practices, land exploitation etc...).

# B. The main tensions to be negotiated when teaching about climate change and global warming?

- Defining climate change and global warming in relation to popular perception.
- Uncovering and challenging misconceptions regarding the greenhouse effect and greenhouse gases.
- Explaining that science does not work through consensus but through hypothesising, experimental investigation and evidence.

# B. The main tensions to be negotiated when teaching about climate change and global warming?

- Supporting the co-development of a functional level of scientific and political literacy in a manner that does not suborn one over the other.
- Uncovering and challenging pupils' confirmation bias in a supportive and productive way.

#### Some 'food' for thought

The need to teach climate change in an open and balanced way has never been more important.

- How do school pupils use their developing scientific and political literacy to inform their personal choices, behaviours and attitudes?
- How do we encourage pupils to engage and, more importantly, act politically in a responsible way in response to their learning about climate change?

### LUNCH 12.35 – 1.15

Task 1 (10 minutes): using a **GREEN** marker, sketch / draw what a school garden looks like from your perspective. You might think about a school garden you know, or you might have an image in your mind of the school garden that you would like to create. In this task there are no limitations – anything is possible. Feel free to discuss your ideas with the people around you. Task 2 (10 minutes): An invitation to *re*-consider your garden...by drawing on the **'Framework of Participation'** (Black-Hawkins, Florian &Rouse, 2007)\*. Make any changes to your original garden using a **RED** marker as you engage with the questions below:

#### Participation and diversity (human + bio-diversity)

- Who is recognised and accepted as an *active participant* in the garden? and by whom?
- (The assumption is that human and bio-diversity need to exist and should be harnessed to create an inclusive and rich learning environment).

Participation and access (...to the physical space + learning opportunities available)

- Who is given access to the garden? Who is denied access, and by whom or what?
- (The assumption is that participation and access may be affected by visible or invisible barriers).

#### Participation and collaboration

- Who (pupils / adults / community members) teaches whom? Who learns from whom?
- Do the 'timetable' and spaces available promote collaboration across diverse groups of people?

#### Participation and achievement

 What kind of learning is valued in the garden – is it an environment where *all learners* can experience challenge?

\*Black-Hawkins, K., Florian, L. & Rouse, M. (2007) Achievement and Inclusion in Schools. London: Routledge







#### Case study two



#### **One Seed Forward**

Bob Donald and Donald Gray













#### **Woodside School**





## Bramblebrae Primary School



#### **Tullos Primary School**







## Blackhall School (Edinburgh)

# Constructing a raised bed

# A Well-integrated School Garden.

Who? What? and How?

Impact of Garden-Based Learning on Academic Outcomes in Schools: Synthesis of Research

Williams, D. R., & Dixon, P. S. (2013, Review of Educational Research, 83(2), 211–235.

The synthesis results showed a **preponderance of positive impacts** on direct academic outcomes ...Indirect academic outcomes were also measured with social development surfacing most frequently and positively.

#### The Effects of School Gardens on Children's Science Knowledge

Wells et al (2015) International Journal of Science Education, 2015 Vol. 37, No. 17, 2858–2878,

"among children in the garden intervention, science knowledge increased from baseline to follow-up more than among control group children."

#### A Systematic Review Of The Health And Well-being Impacts Of School Gardening

Ohly et al. BMC Public Health (2016) 16:286

qualitative research was better quality and ascribed a range of health and well-being impacts to school gardens

Can learning in informal settings mitigate disadvantage and promote urban sustainability? School gardens in Washington, DC

Fisher-Maltese et al (2018) Int Rev Educ (2018) 64:295–312

#### **MORE RESEARCH NEEDED**







Food Growing in Schools Taskfor Report, March 2012



#### Food Growing in Schools Taskforce-Report

#### Key Findings:

- The most effective food growing schools achieve significant learning, skills, health and well-being outcomes for children and young people.
- Food growing in schools has a positive impact on the schools, communities, organisations and businesses involved.
- Many schools grow food, but only some do so in a way that achieves the maximum benefits for all involved.

According to Burt et al\* there are four domains to a wellintegrated school garden:

- Resources and Support; (R&S)
- Pupil (Student) Experience; (PE)
- School Community; (SC)
- Physical Garden. (PG)

Use the elements of each of these provided on the cards to discuss how such a well integrated school garden might be established, integrated, and sustained in schools.

<sup>\*</sup>Burt, K.G., Koch, P. and Contento, I. (2017) Development of the GREEN (Garden Resources, Education, and Environment Nexus) Tool: An Evidence-Based Model for School Garden Integration. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2017;117:1517-1527.

## Resources and Support (R&S)

- Consider the cards for resources and support (R&S).
- Who has a contribution to make to this?
- Who should take responsibility for this?
- Which networks/organisations can be involved?
- How can the structure be organised in the school to enable integration and sustainability?
- What links might there be with PE, SC and PG

## School Community (SC)

- Consider the cards for the School Community (SC).
- Consider how volunteers and community can be involved?
- Who can you look to for support?
- Who has responsibility for policies that impact on this?
- Identify appropriate stakeholders and policy-makers who may have a contribution to make to this.
- How might this be co-ordinated?
- What links might there be with R&S, PE and PG

## Pupil Experience (PE)

Consider the aspects of pupil experience cards (PE)

- How can these elements be encouraged?
- Who should take responsibility?
- Where can you find support and ideas?
- How much time is feasible?
- What are the constraints? How might constraints be overcome?
- What links might there be with R&S, SC and PG?

## Physical Garden (PG)

Consider the aspects of physical garden cards (PE). Refer to some of the photographs of school gardens provided.

- What kinds of gardens are there?
- What will be required to put a garden in place?
- Who is responsible for planning and establishing a garden?
- What resources/support is required?
- Who can help with care and upkeep (e.g. during holidays)?
- What is needed at different levels school, community, authority, policy?

#### PLENARY

There are many opportunities currently to embed growing into everyday planning. However, as many schools can testify, school gardens can come and go. A significant 'activist' component is involved in this process:

- As teachers, we need to make a case for this learning to be valuable;
- As parents, we need to make a case for such learning to be desirable;
- As politicians we need to make a case for this learning to be necessary;
- As researchers we need to make a case for this learning to be visible;
- As community volunteers we need to make a case for this learning to be sustainable.