



Innovation Teaching School



Using Social and Therapeutic Horticulture for Young People With Special Educational Needs



'Using social and therapeutic horticulture (STH) for young people with special educational needs' is a two-day course that provides information, skills and practical techniques that will allow you to create and develop school horticulture activities and create year-round programmes that meet individual and collective pupils' needs.

This course is presented jointly for the first time between The Innovation Teaching School and THRIVE for teachers, teaching assistants and special needs assistants who work with pupils across all age groups in both mainstream schools units and and special school settings.

“ The course provided an excellent introduction to how STH programmes could support pupils in a school environment. I was able to meet with people from a range of backgrounds, which was a fantastic stimulus to thinking about how I could establish STH to benefit our young people both in my class and in the school as a whole ”

Zoe, teacher

2nd – 3rd March 2015

**Venue: The Ridgeway Community School,
17 Frensham Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8HB**

Using Social and Therapeutic Horticulture for young people who have special educational needs

As from September 2014 gardening will be on the National Curriculum, are you prepared to ‘cultivate plants for practical purposes’ as a key addition to the curriculum?



There are only 24 places available and strong interest from schools within the group is anticipated - bookings will be taken on a “first come, first served” basis.



This course is suitable for:

Teachers, teaching assistants and special needs assistants who work with pupils across all age groups in both mainstream schools units and and special school settings.



Early application is advised.

Closing Date for applications is Friday 21st November 2014.

What you will learn:

- To understand the theory of using social and therapeutic horticulture with special education needs and different themes of practice
- To apply and link the practices of social and therapeutic horticulture to the National Curriculum
- To understand and apply the principles and practice of social and therapeutic horticulture within the school setting to create schemes of work and session plans
- To explore the use of assessment in social and therapeutic horticulture within school settings.

Cost:

£270.00 – (£135.00 per day)

Times:

- Registration and coffee 9.30am
- 10am start – 4pm finish

Included in fee:

- All course materials
- Course hand-outs
- A light lunch and refreshments



This course can be used towards THRIVE'S AWARD in Social and Therapeutic Horticulture. To find out more please click on this link: <http://www.thrive.org.uk/accredited-courses.aspx>

Typical Course Outline

(This is a general description of areas covered but course content may change due to weather, attendees requirements etc)

DAY 1	DAY 2
09.30 Arrive, registration and coffee	09.30 Arrivals, registration and coffee
10.00 Welcome, introductions, expectations, aims and outline for the day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits of horticulture for children with special needs• Understanding horticultural activities (application) Practical activity (1)• Using horticulture to meet the needs of children (approach) and links to the curriculum	10.00 Outline for the day and re-cap from first day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits of horticulture for children with special needs• Understanding horticultural activities (application) Practical activity (3)• Using horticulture to meet the needs of children (approach) and links to the curriculum
12.30 Lunch	12.30 Lunch
13.30 • Tour of School horticulture area <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding horticultural activities (application) Practical activity (2)• Practical and creative ideas in the garden	13.30 • Differentiation in horticulture (application) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment in STH• Questions and answers
16.00 Open discussion and depart	16.00 Evaluation and depart

Course Presenters

The course will be jointly presented by Becky Pinnager and Martin Billett.

Becky has worked as a teacher for almost forty years first in the primary sector then with teenagers on the autistic spectrum. After taking the diploma in Horticultural Therapy she has worked with children with different special educational needs as a horticultural therapist at Thrive. Becky has also been working for Thrive as a trainer, and continues to do so on a freelance basis. She has written several articles on the subjects of using gardening with children with special educational needs.

Martin holds a higher education qualification in STH and is subject lead, for horticulture at The Ridgeway Community School. He has an autistic son aged 24 years and leads the horticulture programme for Farnham's charity Post – 19 Group, who received The Chairman's Trophy in South East In Bloom 2013 for social inclusion. He is currently Chair, Community Enhancement Group for Farnham's entry into Britain In Bloom.

Thrive is the UK's leading charity using horticulture to benefit people touched by disability. Since its foundation in 1978 it has championed the benefits of gardening, run therapeutic programmes across the UK. Thrive carry out pioneering research and offer specialised professional training and education in social and therapeutic horticulture.