



## **Community support for our rural project – can you help?**

11 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As part of our unique offer at Test Valley, we are further developing the rural element of our school. We want the rural aspect of our school to permeate the explicit taught curriculum and the implicit wider curriculum. This is a key development priority for the next few years.

One part of this development is the introduction of a Level 2 Land Based Studies Technical Award which will be part of the option process for this year.

This course should give a good grounding for pupils in animal and plant physiology, nutrition and health. It will give the learners the ability to join a number of Level 3 Advanced Technical courses at Post 16 education.

With this qualification the students need to take part in local community projects:

- Conservation
- Improving the local area, planting shrubs in the local village or planting trees
- Farming – land and technology

We would like to build a network of businesses and individuals which would be willing to work with us in the different areas, giving our pupils practical knowledge and experience of these.

Some of these are:

- Local farmers
- Feed merchants
- Game keepers
- Garden Centres
- Vet Practices

If you could help us with this we would love to hear from you. Please email us on [office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk)

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Furthermore, we have access to onsite facilities but need to develop these and would love any donations of equipment:

Spades

Nets for the beds

Forks

Canes

Pallets

Seating

Gardening mats

Gardening gloves

Shed for the chickens

Lastly, we need to undertake some manual labour on our rural area. We need support with digging beds, developing the goat pen, cutting back plants etc. If you have time to spare and would be willing to help with this after school we would love to hear from you.

Please do contact us on the school email: [office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:office@testvalley.hants.sch.uk) if you can help with any of the above mentioned plans.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Toni Wilden

Headteacher

Test Valley School

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