

National Allotments Week: 10th to 16th August 2026 - Grow to Learn 🌱

National Allotments Week is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many benefits of growing, gardening and spending time outdoors. This year, the theme is **“Grow to Learn”**, highlighting how allotments can be places where people develop practical skills, build confidence and learn valuable lessons for life.

At Step Into Learning, we know that learning doesn't always have to happen in a classroom. Practical, hands-on experiences can be a fantastic way for learners to develop new skills, discover their strengths and build confidence.

🌱 Learning through doing

Growing plants and vegetables teaches us that good things take time. From preparing the soil and planting seeds to caring for plants and eventually enjoying the harvest, gardening encourages patience, responsibility and perseverance.

There are also plenty of opportunities to develop practical skills, problem-solving abilities and teamwork. Whether it's deciding what to grow, working out how to care for a plant or sharing tasks with others, gardening provides lots of meaningful learning experiences.

🌻 Supporting wellbeing

Spending time outdoors and connecting with nature can also have a positive impact on our wellbeing. Gardening gives us the chance to slow down, enjoy the fresh air and take pride in seeing something we've helped to grow.

For our learners, opportunities to get outside and take part in practical activities can complement classroom learning and provide a different environment in which to develop confidence and independence.

🥕 Growing skills for the future

The lessons we learn through gardening can extend far beyond the allotment. Patience, resilience, teamwork, organisation and problem-solving are all skills that can support us in education, employment and everyday life.

National Allotments Week reminds us that there are opportunities to learn all around us. Sometimes, the best lessons can come from getting our hands dirty, trying something new and seeing what we can grow!

At Step Into Learning, we are passionate about providing learners with opportunities to learn in different ways, develop practical skills and grow in confidence as they prepare for their next steps.