



Membership Programme for Schools

2025-26



www.thepapillonproject.com

The Papillon Project is registered as a charity (1189383) and a charitable company limited by guarantee (12171611)



The Papillon Project



The Papillon Project (TPP) is not simply about putting allotments in schools. Rather, it delivers a special kind of youth work, one which transforms the lives of young people in terms of their educational outlook, mental health, physical well-being and connection to nature. TPP works by utilising a county wide network of volunteers alongside a small staff of paid employees. A model that has, since 2019, enabled TPP to work with 36 secondary education providers and thousands of young people.

"Ever since I joined the allotment, I have become more confident in myself, and I know that this is a place where I can just be myself."

Student, 2023

Securing a sustainable future for TPP, one which will allow for the continued delivery and development of our work improving the lives of Norfolk's young people is essential. As such TPP will move to an annual membership fee model of £1200 from 2025.

Proud to be a member of The Papillon Project

Membership of TPP is a cause for celebration and pride in a school. It signifies both a meaningful commitment to environmental education and a commitment to meeting the diverse needs of every pupil.

Proud to meet young peoples 'need for nature'

In the most recent government statistics dealing with children's responses to nature, **'The Children's People and Nature Survey for England'**, 87% of children and young people agreed that being in nature made them very happy (only 2% disagreed). Worryingly, over 50% of those surveyed felt low to moderate levels of connection. In every school TPP works with low levels of connection do not need to be the case. TPP equips pupils with the skills, time and opportunity to transform land and connect with nature.



Proud to support mental health

The feeling that being outside, connected to nature is good for mental health is widespread and now, peer reviewed studies empirically prove that feeling to be true. A 2021 meta-analysis on the impact of outdoor based activities conducted by the University of York demonstrated that, **'taking part in outdoor, nature-based activities led to improved mood, less anxiety, and positive emotions... greater mental health benefits were observed when outdoor activities were conducted in a group.'** The lead author, Dr Peter Coventry reported, "We've known for some time that being in nature is good for health and well-being, but our study reinforces the growing evidence that doing things in nature is associated with large gains in mental health."

Working with TPP, students report improved mood and reductions in anxiety. With the current mental health crises TPP offers practical help for schools now.

"If I feel really anxious or stressed, I go down there to calm my anxiety; it's a really peaceful place... it provided me with a lot of headspace to chillout." Student, 2020

% of 119 students - 2023





Proud to deliver innovative careers education

According to the 2024 Lords Horticultural Sector Committee report: **‘Sowing the seeds: A blooming English Horticulture Sector’** as many as 674,000 people are employed in the horticulture and landscape sector, part of an industry worth £28.8 billion in 2019. Despite this the report concluded that the industry was misunderstood and poorly promoted in schools. **TPP** fills this gap in provision, enabling students to consider horticulture and similar opportunities. Moreover, **TPP** schools provide their students with the creative, problem solving and communication skills demanded by employers today.

“I like the creativeness of it as we can decide what we make, and everything here is made by us. I feel quite proud that what we have envisioned looks good.” **Student, 2023**

Proud to support academic excellence

Learning doesn’t just take place in the classroom. **TPP** provides opportunities for teachers to use safe, well managed sites to enrich the curriculums they teach: from the herbology of Shakespeare, to Fibonacci sequences in sunflowers; from fork to plate in Food Technology, to demonstrating genetics in the characteristics of peas, **TPP** allotments are an academic resource for all departments. Moreover, for students **TPP** inspires the process of self-discovery necessary to real to academic progress.

“At the allotment we have environmental science, maths, and intervention classes and we would like music, drama and food tech to come here as well.” **Staff, 2023**

“I want to go into agriculture as a career, so this helps with my understanding of plant growth.”
Student, 2020



“I love all of it to be honest... I really love it here”.

Student, 2023

Proud to deliver SEND and Inclusion opportunities for schools

For many young people classroom based learning can be a significant challenge. **TPP** excels in providing schools with space, opportunity and support to try something different for those pupils who need something different.



% of 119 students - 2023



■ TPP provides a space to experience nature ■ Other



“What I have learnt here is that it teaches you to be patient because it is going to take time. Concentration is the most important thing I have learned since being at the allotment.”
Student, 2023

"You become enriched...we have countered what people say isn't possible by making it possible and we are enriching the environment which is good." **Student, 2023**

Proud to be building resilience in young people and schools

Resilience, both emotional and physical is essential to the holistic education our young people deserve. **TPP**, through its continued provision of outdoor education during Covid and its practical approach to food security during the cost of living crisis, is at the forefront of building resilience in young people and their school communities.

Proud to support staff

TPP works with a wide range of teaching and support staff, all motivated by the desire to get the very best out of the young people in their care.

"It's given young people the chance to experience the school in a different way... Schools are about memories, and these are the things that you will take with you for the rest of your life..." **Staff 2023**

% of 119 students - 2023



"This space supports my mental well-being".

Staff, 2023

"I work really well doing physical lessons and so find being here helps me express myself better and helps me mentally." **Student, 2023**

Why Does Papillon matter to your school?

The **Papillon Project** is not an 'add on', nor a luxury. In a changing world it offers connectivity to nature, mental-health support, extra-curricular opportunity and academic/career options at the heart of what society needs and young people deserve.

Since 2019 **TPP** has delivered services for free, financed by small grants and fundraising. Now, in the fifth year of operations **TPP** has grown. This growth, both in numbers and the depth of support provided has increased costs. Consequently in order to continue operations **TPP** will be moving to an annual membership fee model for all participating schools from February 2025.

% of 119 students - 2023



For more information on the impact of **The Papillon Project** please visit us at: www.thepapillonproject.com/our-impact/

For more information on our membership model please see your most recent School Agreement document. Or contact us at: info@thepapillonproject.com

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