

Ballybeg Family Growing Project School Garden with St. Saviour's National School

Ballybeg CDP Family Growing Project¹ in Waterford has recently developed a school Garden with their local national school, St. Saviour's. They started by identifying and designing a suitable plot within the school grounds. Ballybeg CDP Horticulture students prepared the plot so that the families were able to start planting and learning about gardening without delay.

School staff are very excited and committed to the work. The garden is proving very successful with the pupils and parents who attend gardening and cookery activities.



The programme involves 3 elements:

1. The development of the school garden with children and parents under a qualified horticulture tutor trained in Ballybeg Horticulture Initiative.
2. The delivery of the HSE Cook It! programme theory once a month with the parents group in Ballybeg CDP.
3. The delivery of the HSE Cook It! programme practical cookery classes with the parents group in the Culinary Arts School of Waterford Institute of Technology.

Ballybeg CDP also runs an after school support and youth work service. They work with all Waterford secondary schools that have pupils from Ballybeg. Fifty five children attend their Community Education Project three days a week for homework support, grinds and special classes. All children are given a hot cooked meal in their community café before they commence class.

¹ The Family Growing Project is a Community Food Initiative funded by **safefood** and managed by Healthy Food for All. The aim of the project is to support parents and children to increase their skills and ability around growing and cooking, which will develop their awareness of and access to healthy food. This will have a positive impact on the overall well-being of families.



**Community
Food Initiatives**
Programme 2013–15

Funded by



Managed by



Healthy Food for All
access | availability | affordability