



March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

This letter is to introduce you to an exciting new opportunity for students at Seaford Head School. Over the next few months we will be creating a smallholding at our Steyne Road site. This will consist of a kitchen garden, where we will be working with our young people, raising their awareness of 'growing your own', particularly in view of the current financial climate.

Students will also be involved in caring for existing wildlife, building a range of habitats to ensure the continued growth of our natural environment and learning about the importance of biodiversity.

Lastly, we will be introducing a few domestic animals to our smallholding, meeting the criteria for qualifications in Animal Care. These will include guinea pigs, chickens, birds and even a bearded dragon. Extensive research and risk assessments have been completed, as well as small scale trials with animals at our Steyne Road site. *All Evolve/farm education activities may include, but is not limited to, handling small animals, working on the school pond, farm garden and woodwork activities, visiting local sites related to agriculture and horticulture, attending after school sessions, visiting local primary schools and volunteering for farm projects.*

Students have proved to be exemplary in their work with animals so far and I am confident that they will continue to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in all areas of agriculture and horticulture.

These students will have a variety of opportunities enabling them to get involved in this project, including Evolve lessons, joining teams for set projects and signing up for lunchtime and after school clubs. They will all be offered the chance to work towards a number of qualifications through the AQA Unit Award Scheme. Some may just want to come along for the experience. Over the next few weeks, we will hold assemblies explaining the project. If your child would like to be involved, please complete the parental consent online on parentpay. If you don't have a parentpay account, please email [parentpay@seafordhead.org](mailto:parentpay@seafordhead.org) for an activation code.

We are always keen to immerse our local community in our projects so families, if they wish, can get involved. We are keen to ensure that all students are able to take part and, to that end, we are asking for donations of garden items that you may have to spare. Listed below are some ideas for items that would be useful:

- Wellington boots: *all sizes*
- Garden tools: *spades, forks, trowels, rakes, shears etc.*
- DIY tools: *hammers, screw drivers, nails and screws etc.*
- Overalls, sweaters or old coats
- Planters, plant pots and propagators

Should you have any questions, please email Ms. Perou at [carlyperou@seafordhead.org](mailto:carlyperou@seafordhead.org).

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Perou  
**Specialist Teacher of SEN**

## Seaford Learning Trust

Mr R Ellis, Headteacher

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