
Working together

In one school, the students in a learning support unit decided to create an outdoor garden and relaxation area as a social resource for the young people in the unit. Everyone had a part to play. One student, who used a wheelchair, evaluated the height of the new raised planting beds for their accessibility. Another enjoyed the very practical nature of the digging, planting and watering tasks and took responsibility for caring for the new seeds, plants and trees. The group all used their creative skills to decorate the patio tubs. Where work in the project required more specialist skills, other students came in from other parts of the school to act as mentors and guides to the young people in the unit. This kind of collaboration enabled the project to be completed and forged new supportive relationships that extended beyond the life of the project and promoted enhanced interdependence among students around the school.