



### Primary and Secondary Schools

Rural City of Wangaratta

**16**

of 24 schools completed the Veggie Garden Mapping Survey

All **16**

reported to have a veggie garden at their schools



Eight reported as active



Seven are somewhat active (on and off / seasonal)



One reported as inactive

#### Program linkages



Four reported that they are registered with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program



One reported they are registered with Vic Kids Eat Well



One is registered with the Achievement Program



Four have local produce linkages to school curriculum



use it in the school breakfast program



Nine use it for cooking classes

#### Successful gardens included:

- Staff time, participation, dedication and enjoyment;
- Student engagement and interest;
- Curriculum planning for linking lessons and allowing time for cooking;
- Donations;
- 'Garden Club';
- Operational greenhouse;
- Support from volunteers (both family and community members);
- 'Hands on Learning' curriculum within the school;
- Wicking beds as watering isn't an issue;
- Water and good soil; and,
- A designated person to manage.



#### How garden produce is used?

More than half of the schools (14) reported it is used in cooking classes and programs such as Environmental Studies, Food Technology, Agriculture/Horticulture and social skill development.

Schools often share the produce with students if they need a snack, catering for camps, families taking the produce home, Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, playgroup and the community (eg. left at front of school for collection, 'share shed').



#### Support schools are interested in receiving

- Facebook group/resources with gardening guidance (5)
- Support from Bunnings to maintain/reactivate garden eg. provide seedlings, improvements (19)
- Opportunities to share excess produce (9)
- Veggie gardening workshops/resources (14)

#### Challenges include:

- Time;
- Cost; and,
- Maintenance (eg. watering, planting, tending to beds, harvesting).

Thank you to everyone that completed the survey and provided valuable input into the mapping of veggie gardens in educational settings. Gateway Health has funded five schools to support their veggie gardens and is also working in partnership with Bunnings Wangaratta to provide further support.