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Government Initiative help Serlby Park Academy to Plant Trees!

The Serlby Park Academy based in Harworth has planted 233 trees thanks to a national tree planting project funded by Defra. The Greenwood Community Forest, one of 12 Community forest initiatives in England, helped the school to plan a planting scheme including hedgerows and a small woodland which will be used as an area for outdoor learning. Over 200 children from Years 2 to 5 were involved in planting a variety of native trees including hawthorn, field maple, holly, birch, rowan, crab apple and oak, which as they grow will be great for wildlife as well as school children.

The Greenwood Team made the whole process easy by giving advice as well as planning the planting scheme, providing tools and materials and leading the planting event. There is also advice on long-term care of the trees which is really helpful.

Following the planting day the Greenwood Team will revisit the school to provide an education workshop with pupils based on the importance of trees to our urban areas.

Gillian Fotheringham, Head of Academy, said: "Being on a new build site means that we have few trees around our Primary site. The result of being part of the Trees for Learning project with the Greenwood Team is that we will be able to improve our outdoor learning areas dramatically. We look forward to learning about the wildlife who will make our trees their home and enjoy the shade and tranquillity that the trees will one day provide. To know that our children will have planted them and will be able to watch them grow is an extra special added bonus!"

Nic Wort, Land Management Officer for Greenwood, said: "It has been a pleasure to work with the school. The whole process from planning through to planting has been a great experience. It is so important to connect children with the nature around them and this experience has really involved them in helping to improve their school grounds for future learning and the wider environment."

Ends

Photo Opportunity

Photo: Children planting trees

Further information

To find out more about the Defra funded Trees for Learning project contact the Greenwood Team on 0115 9932593 or email greenwood@nottsc.gov.uk

Notes for the editor:**Trees for Learning**

Trees for Learning is a Defra backed project working in partnership with England's Community Forests. It is part of a national initiative for primary school children to plant one million trees by 2020.

Greenwood Community Forest

Greenwood is Nottinghamshire's Community Forest – we work in partnership to enable our communities to create, care for and to use woodlands and other high quality accessible green spaces in a sustainable way that benefits the environment, landscape and the local economy.