

GET A TASTE FOR GROWING Project – further information.

Thank you for your interest in the **GET A TASTE FOR GROWING PROJECT**.
Below is more information to help you decide if you want to join the project.

Are you eligible for a taster strip?

You need to be a Salisbury resident as this allotment site is managed by Salisbury City Council (SCC) and that is their requirement.

You need to want to grow your own fruit and vegetables but not have a garden or suitable space in which to do so. (For example if you live in a flat or only have a small backyard etc.)

About the plot:

The allotment is number 20A situated on the Coldharbour Lane site in Salisbury.

There will be 4 taster strips on this allotment each approximately 12 feet long by 15 feet wide divided by a grass path.

There are three mature apple trees at one end and some fruit bushes and a large compost bin. (We hope to provide a bench here for a small communal area.)

A shared shed is provided for tools and to shelter from the rain, a key will be issued to each strip holder. There is a water tap and trough nearby where you can fill watering cans (no hosepipes allowed)

There is limited parking near the site and there is an area for turning within the site so you can deliver heavy items by car.

Anyone taking on a strip will be bound by the rules for the allotment set by Salisbury City Council.

To make the project successful we would also ask that you would be prepared to work the plot in a way that considers the needs of all strip holders, for example helping with shared tasks like grass cutting & edging.

Considerate planting will be needed so as not to overshadow others crops as will maintaining weed control. Help and advice re planting in small spaces will be available if needed but each strip holder has control of their patch to grow what they would like to eat.

Cost:

STC will provide the allotment but we will charge £15 to cover the cost of keys (currently £12 for the key from SCC & the shed key).

The project runs from January - December 2016 initially so you would need to be prepared to start on your strip as soon as possible (weather permitting). The main

growing season really gets underway in March and as you only have a year, you will want to think about what crops you can grow in this time, planning is half the fun. Seed and plant sharing can reduce the cost and there are always folk with extra plants seeds etc.

Some possible questions:

- Will I have to clear and prepare the strip?

Yes we will divide strips and edge the plot and paths initially but you will need to get the ground ready for planting.

- Can I use weed killer?

We would discourage weed killer as it is easy to let spray drift on to other plants and plots. We also want to encourage an organic approach to gardening on a small plot clearing weeds is not too difficult and is very satisfying.

- Am I allowed a bonfire?

Yes but not on Mondays and Fridays and always with consideration of other plot holders and nearby houses. Composting is better whenever possible.

- Do I have to buy lots of tools?

We are hoping to provide some basic tools but you may wish to use your own.

I wouldn't recommend keeping valuable tools in the shed (e.g. a petrol strimmer)

Basic tools garden spade, fork, hoe and rake and hand trowel will get most jobs done.

You may be able to borrow a mower for cutting the grass.

- Can I bring my children with me?

Yes we like young gardeners, but they will need to be closely supervised as there are hazards on the allotment.

- Can I bring my dog with me?

Dogs are allowed but they have to be kept under control at all times see SCC rules.

GET A TASTE FOR GROWING Project – further information.

For more information contact Lindsey Bellringer - bellringer77@btinternet.com and leave a contact number if you want me to ring you back.

To apply please contact Lindsey Bellringer as above or fill out the online application form.

<https://forestgardening.wufoo.com/forms/get-a-taste-for-growing-allotment-application/>