Our Vision

Every child should understand where food comes from, how nature sustains us, and how they can help shape a healthier, fairer future. Food, farming, and nature must be fundamental to every child's education—not optional extras. We call for national leadership to make this happen.

Why This Matters Now

Across the UK, inspiring partnerships already connect farms with schools—building skills, confidence, and a sense of belonging. But they're thriving despite the system, not because of it:

No coherent national strategy

No consistent curriculum

No long-term funding

This postcode lottery leaves thousands of children disconnected from the land, the food system, and the natural world. It's time for national action.

Our Approach

We're not reinventing the wheel. We are:

Championing organisations delivering farm-school education

Amplifying frontline insights to shape effective policy

Convening partners to co-create national recommendations

Together, we advocate for joined-up policy that reflects what works on the ground.

○ Voices from the Field
"At Devon and Earth's secondary school One pupil, initially unable to touch seed compost even with gloves, now plants seedlings bare-handed, embodying the profound impact of experiential learning."
— Rhiannon Alcock, Educator
"What we need is regeneration for the next generation. By embedding this knowledge at the heart of the curriculum, we equip children with the skills to be custodians of the future."
— Georgina Webber, The Elliot Foundation Academies Trust
"Hands-on learning in sustainable agriculture nurtures biodiversity, soil health, resilience, and wellbeing — equipping young minds to tackle the climate crisis and build a regenerative future."
— Rachel Phillips, The Apricot Centre
"A hands-on, real-life curriculum experience with food, farming, and sustainability at the heart will empower generations to come with the skills and mindset needed for people and planet to be nourished and flourish."
— Amy Arnold, Headteacher, Barnham CEVC Primary School
■ What We're Calling For
We urge the government to:
Develop a national strategy for food, farming, and nature in education
Embed these themes into the core curriculum, from Early Years to post-16
Provide long-term funding for farm–school partnerships and outdoor learning
Convene a cross-sector roundtable, led by the Department for Education, to align and streamline existing initiatives

Track and publish progress annually, ensuring shared accountability across government

departments

Research shows effective integration of such themes "from birth to 5 years old" in EYFS, continuing through primary and secondary education, builds engagement, environmental stewardship, and life skills. What You Can Do If you're an MP or policymaker: Endorse this call for a national strategy Support a parliamentary roundtable Visit a local farm-school partnership If you're a teacher, farmer, or partner organisation: Endorse the manifesto Share your story Join the co-creation of next-stage policy recommendations If you're a supporter or citizen: Share this campaign Contact your MP Help spread the word Use the hashtag #ruraleducationmatters and tag @foodfarmingeducation on Instagram to join the conversation and show your support

Stay Informed with Farmers Guardian

As a monthly contributor to Farmers Guardian, I delve deeper into the intersections of food, farming, and education. Through these articles, I share insights, success stories, and updates on the Farm to Future campaign, aiming to inspire and inform our community. Read my latest

blog here. https://www.farmersguardian.com/blog/4414527/rural-education-matters-olivia-shave-disrupt-powers-fight-future-british-food-farming

Let's Build a Living Landscape for Learning

Food, farming, and nature belong in every classroom—not on the fringes. We have the evidence, the energy, and the community. Now we need policy to match.

Share the manifesto: [Campaign website]

Read the White Paper: https://tr.ee/R6EQPm70w-

Follow the campaign:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/share/g/12MAAhvmpAK/?mibextid=wwXlfr

Instagram: @foodfarmingeducation

#ruraleducationmatters

Let's grow the future—together.