



MEDIA RELEASE

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Free kitchen garden curriculum available today

Teachers needing fresh lesson ideas can access a new curriculum that uses the garden and kitchen for hands-on learning.

The Australian Organic Schools curriculum is for students aged five to 12 and teaches them how to create, care for and cook from an organic garden.

All 32 lessons and digital resources are aligned with the Australian Curriculum with lesson links to sustainability, maths, science and literacy skills.

Program Manager Jane Burns says "Australian Organic Schools is part of a global trend of education initiatives teaching the next generation about food from the ground up.

"Growing food in schools is an excellent way to teach agricultural literacy to young people, leading to an increase in consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables, health benefits, and improved vocational and life skills," she says.

Over 1,000 schools have registered with Australian Organic Schools since it launched in 2010.

Lessons have been designed for teachers with little or no horticultural knowledge and include ideas about how to integrate a school's kitchen garden program into their classroom curriculum within a subject or as a separate unit.

They help students develop an awareness of certified organic food production and the benefits of organic farming for health and the environment.

The program has attracted media personalities including award winning chef Pete Evans, ABC *Gardening Australia's* Costa Georgiadis and Therese Kerr as goodwill ambassadors.

Any school, community garden, home-school, learning centre or individual can join the program and access all online resources including information on organic gardening and farming, nutrition, recipes and more.

Registered schools can also get help with funding opportunities and connect with certified organic farms.

All resources can be downloaded from the Australian Organic Schools website organicschools.com.au

Australian Organic media Kathy Cogo 07 4771 3714 | 0466 015 183. Images available.