Overview:

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation was established by Stephanie Alexander OAM in 2004, in response to the success of the pilot Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program at Collingwood College, Melbourne, from 2001.

The Foundation has since secured funding to expand the Kitchen Garden Program to schools across Australia, and has adapted the Program to make it more affordable, flexible and accessible for all Australian schools with a primary curriculum. We have engaged with schools, governments, philanthropists and passionate individual donors to move the Kitchen Garden Program from a pilot program to an established food education model that is now implemented by hundreds of schools all over the country.

The Foundation provides all the training and support schools need for their teachers to deliver the Kitchen Garden Program, and also take advantage of the Program’s inherent learning outcomes to meet their curriculum goals.

Operating with a small, dedicated team across Australia, we are a not-for-profit, charitable organisation that relies on the generosity, shared vision and commitment of schools, volunteers, philanthropic organisations, government, business and individuals.

Promoting healthy eating and physical activity:

Schools running the Kitchen Garden Program commit to a dynamic and innovative model whereby kitchen and garden classes are run regularly, enabling skills-based learning that extends across the entire school curriculum.

Children across Years 3 to 7 have regular garden classes in an extensive vegetable garden that they have helped design, build and maintain on the school grounds according to organic gardening principles. They also have regular classes in a kitchen classroom preparing and sharing a wonderful variety of meals created from their produce.

The Foundation trains school staff to deliver these classes, either one or two of the school’s existing teachers, or hired-in specialists. The kitchen and garden classes and teachers work in partnership with each other, so that they form a harmonious cycle.

In each area the children work together in small groups with the assistance of community volunteers. Students are encouraged to be active in the garden, learn about the whole food production process and establish a positive relationship with nutritious food. The finished dishes are arranged with pride and care on tables set with flowers from the garden, and the shared meal is a time for students, volunteers and teachers to enjoy each other’s company and conversation.

Mailing list:

You can join the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation mailing list at kitchengardenfoundation.org.au

Contact details:

If you are interested in joining the Program please contact the Schools Support Line on 13000 SAKGF or support@kitchengardenfoundation.org.au