

TETTENHALL AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

BEST SCHOOL GARDEN COMPETITION 2016

Judges: Mrs W Davies, Mrs S Morris, R Newnham Mr D Rudge

St Edmund's School

Judging Date: 5th July 11.00 2016

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| 1. Cultivation and freedom from perennial weeds | Score out of 20 | 16 |
| 2. Children's knowledge, enthusiasm and involvement | Score out of 20 | 15 |
| 3. Quality and variety of planting | Score out of 20 | <u>14</u> |
| | | 45 |

Additional comments

A garden in a well maintained space in the heart of the school. It is challenging as it is in an open courtyard which is used by all students at break times. The garden is protected voluntarily by the members of the gardening club. Birds are often a problem. The garden benefits from the school cleaners taking an active interest by watering and filling in spare spaces with Indian Spinach. They do this voluntarily however they do sometimes pick crops without asking. Technology department sometimes plant items without consultation for use in the kitchens – this is under control now. The gardening club membership is small and fluid. Students, who are all lower school, are all very knowledgeable. This is run by a retired teacher at lunchtime with an interest in gardening.

The 3 vegetable beds are raised about 2' off the ground. Many of the Crops are behind because of weather. Interesting range of vegetables. Potato crop is due to be harvested for use by school kitchen for a curry within the week. One was pulled in our presence and showed very good productivity.

The members have also taken on responsibility for flower pots in the Peace Garden. These pots have added colour to an otherwise uninspiring Council planting scheme. These are obviously well cared for.

Good all round interest. Very little sign of weeds. Herbs grown by the students are used by the school kitchen. Compost is made however it has not been used this year. A new bed from a tyre may be created next year for herbs. This will use the compost as a base.