

School nature-contact planning kit

Turn a case study into a manageable school project

A practical companion for planning and discussion. Use it to record the setting, compare options and agree a reviewable next step. It is not a certification assessment, clinical tool or substitute for project-specific professional advice.

- 1 Define the teaching activity before choosing a feature.**
- 2 Check views, glare and outdoor access during normal use.**
- 3 Agree supervision, inclusive access and maintenance.**
- 4 Trial, record and review before expanding.**

Use the right question

Starting point	Focus	Planning question
Mellor	Indoor/outdoor learning	Connect the feature to a real curriculum activity
Northwich	Daylight and timber	Check comfort and ongoing operation
Hackney	Classroom and threshold	Improve a repeated daily journey

Keep the brief specific: one setting, one user activity and a clear owner for the next action.

Your project worksheet

Complete this during a site walk or team discussion. Record facts separately from assumptions. Use additional sheets for complex projects.

01 School / building / room

02 Activity and users

03 Current difficulty

04 Existing nature contact worth keeping

05 Trial change and permission required

06 Responsible person and review date

Review and next action

Use these prompts to record practical observations. They are original discussion questions, not a validated survey or a scored assessment.

Where does the activity happen now?

When is the space difficult to use?

What would make outdoor access more practical?

What changed during the trial?

Agree what happens next

Action	Responsible person	Date / review
Retain, adapt, investigate or stop:		
Uncertainty or evidence to obtain:		

Sources and further reading

Mellor: [architect project account](#) (swarch.co.uk)

Kingsmead Northwich: [NAO case studies](#) (www.nao.org.uk)

Kingsmead Hackney: [university project account](#) (www.londonmet.ac.uk)

This workbook contains original guidance and worksheets. Refer to the linked sources for their full context; no third-party photographs or assessment forms are reproduced.