

# Back To School

This project brought together the skills & experience of two outdoor learning charities, The Conservation Volunteers and Learning through Landscapes. Supported by players of the People's Postcode Lottery, we worked with staff and children from Shakespeare Primary School in Leeds to create a relaxing, contemplative area for their school community. The imposing presence of neighbouring St James' Hospital presents a reminder that like many, these children, their families, teachers and community experienced very disrupted lives during the pandemic - and are still recovering from its impact.

Nature provides a constant and reassuring space for learning and wellbeing. We made the most of this by enabling 90 Year 6 children to explore TCV's Skelton Grange Environment Centre and consider together the challenges they had experienced, what was important to them, and what aspirations they had for creating a legacy project together. LtL's landscape architect and TCV staff & volunteers ran workshops in school with pupils and staff, culminating in a project design that the children helped to create and celebrate.



***I learnt how to be hopeful. I learnt that my voice is powerful and important. I learnt to dig a big hole. I am proud of wearing shorts in the rain. I am proud that it worked and now we got calm seats.***

Shakespeare Primary School pupils

*Thank you to TCV staff for working with Learning through Landscapes on the Back-to-School project at Shakespeare Primary in Leeds. I strongly believe the support and depth of both teams has made the Back-to-School project a success. Whether it is the clear roles and responsibilities laid out by managers or the interpersonal and practical skills of delivery staff, we have all played our role. The budgeting and development work have supported us to use a Learning through Landscapes Accredited Landscape Architect, and this has given all organisations the opportunity to learn from their expertise and produce a higher quality output. I hope that we can work together again.*

Ruth Staples-Rolfe, Project Manager with Learning through Landscapes.



Learning  
through  
Landscapes

