

## HASLUCKS GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL, BAM CONSTRUCTION



### BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

A group of graduates from BAM Construction's Shirley Parkgate retail development, comprising craft apprentices and management trainees, volunteered to help transform an area of disused ground at the rear of Haslucks Green Junior School in Shirley. Working with pupils and staff at the school the group acted to oversee all aspects of procurement and project management to create a beautiful garden with a number of key features:

- Three raised beds (constructed using large timber beams)
- A bug hotel (comprised of used pallets, off cuts of pipe and unused bricks from Parkgate)
- A timber feature seat (a slice of Oak which was cut down as part of Parkgate project)
- A seating area (using an existing bench that was reincorporated into the garden)
- A planted lavender and wildflower area
- A composting area
- An iron man sculpture made out of a damaged incinerator (body), a mop bucket (hat), a concrete slump test cone (neck), damaged scaffold tubes and industrial sized baked bean tins from the school canteen (legs), all thread and small tins (arms) and old spatulas (hands)

The garden has been designed to be incorporated into the national science curriculum and is used by all age groups. The school's eco-committee and gardening club, which encourages pupils to learn about and take care of the environment, look after the garden.

#### Fact box

**Company name:**

BAM Construction

**Project name:**

Haslucks Green Junior School  
Team TIME challenge

**Location:**

Shirley, Birmingham

**Biodiversity enhancement:**

- raised beds
- bug hotel
- lavender and wildflower areas

**Size:**

N/A

**Cost:**

About £1000

**Tips:**

- Be realistic in your design
- Visit a local nature reserve to see which plants enhance biodiversity
- Listen to the pupils who will be looking after the garden
- Avoid buying any materials until you have looked on your doorstep
- Advertise your project within your school and with parents before you begin
- Plan the project so it can be undertaken in all weather conditions
- Identify local businesses with whom you could work

**Year completed:**

2014

#### Categories:

- Community engagement
- Small scale permanent
- Pollinator

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## SUMMARY

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By developing this garden last Autumn, BAM provided the school with access to an area which is now being used for further ecological enhancement. For example, as part of The Pod (an eco-schools accredited activity programme) Haslucks Green is taking part in the Big Bumblebee Discovery through which they have received and planted some lavender plants (which are now flowering), and will soon be undertaking a big bee survey. The school has also planted a wildflower area to further encourage insects and birds. The area now attracts more parents and other visitors to the site who enjoy viewing the garden when visiting the nursery at the back of the school.

Through this project pupils at Haslucks Green are learning about the importance of biodiversity, how to grow flowers, salads and vegetables from seed, and how old materials can be used to create new things.

### Pictures of some of the enhancements

