



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southwark school gets boost for its growing ambition

Charlotte Sharman Primary School, located in the heart of Elephant & Castle, has a large playground, but with only a few potted plants and some little-used play equipment, they have recently been looking for ways to promote healthy lifestyles for their pupils.

We are therefore excited to announce that Trees for Cities, with funding from players of Peoples Postcode Lottery, will now transform areas of the school playground at Charlotte Sharman Primary School in Southwark into an edible playground.

The edible playground - built in the school playground - will give the pupils the opportunity to grow fruit and vegetables and learn why healthy eating is important. As well as enriching the pupils learning experience, it will also enable the teachers to teach across their broad and creative curriculum in an engaging outdoor space.

David Elliott, Chief Executive at Trees for Cities said “With 37 per cent of children between ages of 5 – 12 not eating enough every day and 20 per cent obese on leaving primary school, more and more schools are now educating their children on how food is grown and on making healthy eating choices”.

As part of the project, the pupils will also enjoy hands-on cooking lessons from Chefs Adopt a School and access to food education programmes outside the school gate via charity School Food Matter’s Membership for Schools. School Food Matters will also support Charlotte Sharman Primary to achieve their first Food for Life Award.

Head Teacher at Charlotte Sharman quote: “The Charlotte Sharman community wanted to further develop pupils understanding of healthy lifestyles as well as enhancing the school environment. Edible Playgrounds provides the opportunities for children to grow and eat their own produce supporting our Silver Healthy Schools status alongside the science curriculum as well as providing a vibrant space for social interactions developing a love of the outdoors.”

Clara Govier, Head of Charities at People’s Postcode Lottery said: “It’s been a year since Trees for Cities won the People’s Postcode Lottery Dream Fund, walking away with £249,180, and it is wonderful to see the positive impact the funding is having on schools. The Dream Fund gives organisations the chance to deliver their dream project and it is great to see the Edible Playgrounds project no longer be a dream but now a reality.”

If you or your business want to help raise the remainder of the funds needed for this project please visit <http://www.edibleplaygrounds.org/> where you can make a donation or get in touch with the team on 020 7820 4413.

The edible playground will be completed by April after which there will be a launch event to celebrate their fantastic new garden.

Ends

For more information please contact: Samantha Lagan – 020 7820 4426/07825541130

samantha@treesforcities.org

Images available upon request

Notes to Editors

Edible Playgrounds transform areas in school grounds into vibrant outdoor spaces that excite and teach children about growing and eating healthy food. By instilling healthy eating habits at an early age, they help tackle obesity, food poverty and lack of access to nature head on, and provide a platform for fun and engaging lessons that support the school curriculum.

Edible Playgrounds is a programme led by Trees for Cities who have been working in schools to plant fruit and nut trees for over 10 years.

An Edible Playground typically includes raised beds, a greenhouse, wormery, fruit trees and an irrigation system.

www.edibleplaygrounds.org

Trees for Cities (TfC) is an independent charity, which inspires people to plant and love trees worldwide. Set up in 1993, Trees for Cities' aim is to create social cohesion and beautify our cities through tree planting, community-led design, education and training initiatives in urban areas that need it most.

We manage projects across the UK as well as internationally in cities such as Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Ica. Our work supports urban tree planting initiatives particularly in deprived areas of cities.

Community-led design is an integral part of our landscaping projects. Involving local residents, schools and community groups helps ensure the sustainability of green spaces. www.treesforcities.org

School Food Matters is a registered charity based in London that campaigns for fresh sustainable food in schools and for children to understand where their food comes from. To achieve this SFM listens to schools, parents and children. Together they urge local authorities to improve school meals and to support food education through cooking, growing and links with local farms. <http://www.schoolfoodmatters.com/>

Chefs Adopt a School founded in 1990 by the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts, Adopt a School, which includes Chefs Adopt a School and Hospitality in Schools, is a national charity which teaches children – in a holistic way – about food, cookery food provenance, food growing, healthy eating, nutrition, hygiene, table etiquette and the importance of eating together. Professional Chefs deliver sessions in the classroom which range in content from the four tastes and the five senses, to advanced practical cookery. The charity reaches over 20,000 children every year and we work with primary schools, secondary schools, SEN schools, hospital schools, pupil referral units, sports centres and food festivals. We believe that every child should be taught about the importance of food and the significance it has in our lives. <http://www.chefsadoptaschool.org.uk/>

About People's Postcode Lottery

- People's Postcode Lottery is a charity lottery. Players play with their postcodes to win cash prizes while raising money for charities and good causes across Great Britain and globally

- People's Postcode Lottery is an External Lottery Manager and manages multiple society lotteries promoted by different causes supporting a range of good causes. For details on which society lottery is running each week, visit www.postcodelottery.co.uk/society
- Postcode Lottery Limited is regulated by the Gambling Commission under certificate nr 829-N-102511-009 and 829-R-102513-008. Registered office: Titchfield House, 69/85 Tabernacle Street, London, EC2A 4RR
- People's Postcode Lottery players support the following Trusts – Postcode African Trust, Postcode Animal Trust, Postcode Care Trust, Postcode Children Trust, Postcode Community Trust, Postcode Culture Trust, Postcode Dream Trust, Postcode Global Trust, Postcode Green Trust, Postcode Heroes Trust, Postcode Planet Trust, People's Postcode Trust and Postcode Sport Trust. These Trusts are funded entirely by players and support a variety of good causes. For further information on each charity, visit: www.postcodelottery.co.uk/charities
- 50p from every £2 ticket goes to good causes and players have raised over £66.4 Million for good causes across the Great Britain and globally
- There are five draws a month with prizes every day and each ticket costs £2 – paid monthly in advance by direct debit. For further prize information, visit: www.postcodelottery.co.uk/prizes
- Maximum amount a single ticket can win is 10% of the draw revenue to a maximum of £400,000
- Players can sign up by Direct Debit, credit card or PayPal online at www.postcodelottery.co.uk, or by calling 0808 10-9-8-7-6-5.

