Norwegian University of Life Sciences
Strengthening school-community links through a Whole School Approach
Rosalie Gwen Mathie, Norwegian University of Life Sciences
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A Whole School Approach

‘Six interconnected strands of an institution that are required to proactively engage with sustainability-oriented education’

Whole School Approach Flower Model with its 6 key components

(Mathie & Wals, 2022)
Examples of strengthening school – community links

**Japan:** A ‘Whole Community Service’ learning approach to sustainability education

**USA:** Chicago based Global Citizenship Experience (GCE) Lab School

*Students from Yakage Gaku Service Learning at a local farm*  
*GCE students participating in the Global Climate Strike in Chicago*
Examples of strengthening school – community links

**Northern Ireland:** Ulidia Integrated College - School - Community
Partnerships in action

**Canada:** Belfountain ‘Learning for a Sustainable Future School’

*Students, staff and parents all are given the opportunity to sign the revised school eco-code each year*

*Grade 6 in the Credit river working with an initiative to repatriate salmon*
Reflexive dialogue – questions to support transformation towards sustainability

**Institutional Practices** – What does a *sustainable location* imply for how we interact, structure and utilise our surroundings to co-create place-based sustainability?

**Capacity building** – What does a *sustainable institute* imply for the type of continuous professional development of all our staff?

**Community links** - What does a *sustainable institute* imply for how we involve the local community and society further afield?

**Curriculum** - What does sustainable education and learning imply for what we teach, measure, and assess?

**Pedagogy and Learning** – What does a sustainable institute imply for how and where we teach?

**Visions, Ethos, Leadership & Coordination** - What does a *sustainable institute* imply for how we coordinate, operate, and lead?
Thank you! rosalie.mathie@nmbu.no
References

To access all the case studies and illustration go to: https://www.wur.nl/wholeschoolapproach


Illustration: Nicolette Tauecchio (Nicniq)