

# Seedlings for Schools 2026/27 R13 application form

## Form Preview

### Information for Schools

#### Time to complete this application

- 10 to 20 minutes.

All compulsory questions with a red asterisk must be completed for the the submit button to become active.

#### Background

Hume City's Seedlings for Schools (SFS) program provides free indigenous seedlings (locally evolved native species) to schools for students to plant. Schools choose from themed species boxes of seedlings.

Council must place SFS orders with seedling suppliers in July-August. The seedlings are then grown over summer and autumn. Seedlings will be delivered to schools in early Term 3 (late July) 2027.

Since 2014, 62,500 seedlings have been donated by Hume City to enhance school grounds and create outdoor classrooms.

#### Who Can Apply

- All primary schools and secondary colleges located in Hume City are eligible to apply.
- Principals, teachers, grounds people, and business managers are welcome to apply.
- Interested parents can also apply on behalf of the school but must attach a letter of support from the school principal to their application (on page 7).

#### What's Provided for Seedlings for Schools

- A minimum of 54 seedling tubestock and up to 540 seedlings (1 to 10 boxes).
  - The total demand from all schools will determine the number of seedlings provided to your school.
  - Species substitutions may be required depending on the success of seed collection and seedling propagation.
- Seedlings come in foam vegetable boxes.
  - Each box contains up to 54 labelled tubestock.
  - Intact foam boxes and plastic tubes can be recycled back to the Council depots in Sunbury and Coolaroo. More details will be provided in the confirmation letter sent to successful schools.
- Flora of Hume factsheets - See Council's [Seedlings for Schools webpage](#)
- Gardens for Wildlife spreadsheet with more details about the species of plants (this will be emailed as an attachment).
- iNaturalist instructions so students can become citizen scientists and take photos of the plants in the gardens (this will be emailed as an attachment).

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### Important Dates for Round 13 - Seedlings for Schools 2026/27

- June 2026 - applications open on Monday 1 June and close Tuesday 30 June.
- October 2026 - schools are notified about the outcome of their application.
- June 2027 - schools receive a reminder email about their Term 3 seedling order and delivery date.
- Wednesday 21 July to Thursday 22 July 2027 - seedlings delivered to the school.
- Friday 23 July 2027 - Schools National Tree Day (<https://treeday.planetark.org/>)

### Who to Contact

For more information about the application process or to discuss your school's planting project please contact:

**Melissa Doherty**

Urban Biodiversity Officer

Community Health and Wellbeing, Hume City Council

[melissado@hume.vic.gov.au](mailto:melissado@hume.vic.gov.au)

0409 702 086

03 9200 2200 (Customer Service)

### Related Information

[SFS SmartyGrants Application Instructions](#)

Flora of Hume factsheets on [Seedlings for Schools](#) webpage

- Bee and Butterfly Box
- Lizard Lounge Box
- Bird Bush Box
- Frog Bog Box
- Bush-tucker Box
- Windbreak Box

### Applicant Details

\* indicates a required field

### Contact Details

Please ensure all the stakeholders at the school have been consulted about this planting project, and agree on their respective roles in getting the garden established and maintained.

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Interested parents will be asked to upload a letter of support from the school's Principal (**on page 7**).

### Who is completing this application for the school: \*

- Principal or Assistant Principal  
 Business Manager or School Administrator  
 Teacher or Teacher's Aide  
 Grounds Person  
 Interested Parent  
 Other:

### Your Name \*

Title      First Name      Last Name

  

### Your Mobile Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

### Your Email \*

Must be an email address.

## School Details

### School Name \*

Organisation Name

Enter your school's name

### School Address (location) \*

Address

  

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, and Postcode are required.  
The physical address, not the postal address.

### School Office Phone Number \*

### Which of these options best describes your school: \*

- Primary School       P-9 (Prep to Year 9)?       K-9 (Kindergarten to Year 9)       Other:
- Secondary College       P-12 (Prep to Year 12)       K-12 (Kindergarten to Year 12)

**Approximately how many students are enrolled at the school this year:**

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## Seedlings for Schools Planting Project

\* indicates a required field

### Plans

You can email Council's Urban Biodiversity Officer to request a recent aerial JPG image of the school, to assist with planning if required.

melissado@hume.vic.gov.au

Upload any digitised garden plans to this application (**on page 6**).

Consider the different areas of the school, or separate garden beds, as discrete planting projects or stages. Aim to complete staged projects over time and with various rounds of Seedlings for Schools. Ensure the efforts required for site preparation, planting, and garden maintenance are realistic and sustainable for your school.

**Approximate size of area to be planted in square metres: \***

Must be a number.

**How many students will be involved in this planting project: \***

Must be a number and at least 0.

**Aims of planting project: \***

Tip: Environmental, educational and/or social outcomes.

**What site preparation is required: \***

Tip: Good site preparation including weeding and mulching will improve the survival and growth of seedlings.

**How will the planting project/garden be maintained: \***

Tip: Extra watering helps establish the root system before summer. Weeding and mulching is highly recommended.

## Plants Required

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### Number of Seedlings

Seedlings will be provided by the box, with 54 tubestock in each box.

**Request a suitable number of boxes that you require for the planting area and that your school also has the capacity to plant.** Consider how large your planting area is and how many boxes you will need to plant in the area.

**You can request a maximum of 10 boxes in total.** However, due to the Council budget for this program, the overall number of seedlings supplied may have to be reduced to meet high demands.

- 1 Box = 54 seedlings
- 2 Boxes = 108 seedlings
- 3 Boxes = 162 seedlings
- 4 Boxes = 216 seedlings
- 5 Boxes = 270 seedlings
- 6 Boxes = 324 seedlings
- 7 Boxes = 378 seedlings
- 8 Boxes = 432 seedlings
- 9 Boxes = 486 seedlings
- 10 Boxes = 540 seedlings

### Garden Themes

Boxes of seedlings will be supplied with a various species of plants included to suit particular garden themes:

- Bee Butterfly Box
- Lizard Lounge Box
- Bird Bush Box
- Fog Bog Box
- Bushtucker/ Indigenous Cultural Box
- Windbreak Box

Select the garden themes you are interested in and indicate how many boxes of the particular themes you would like. You can request a **maximum of 10 boxes in complete total across all the themes combined.**

Factsheets for the species included in each of the themed boxes can be found on Council's [Seedlings for Schools webpage](#).

A single box will have several species in it. Choosing different themed boxes will increase the diversity of species provided.

Species substitutions may occur if the seedling nursery is unable to propagate some stock.

All the species selected are locally evolved plants, so they have adapted to growing in clay soils and with the climatic conditions. They will also be safe to plant in school gardens and not present hazards to children.

You will be notified in Term 3 or 4 this year about the outcome of your application and the species that have been ordered for your school.

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### Bee Butterfly Box

This themed box will contain:

- Several species of small wildflowers that grow 20-50cm tall and provide nectar for adult pollinators.
- A few species of native grasses that grow 30cm to 1m tall, which are host food plants for caterpillars.
- Two species of flowering groundcovers that are also bee and butterfly habitat plants.

One box will be enough seedlings to fill an area of approximately 15-25 square metres.

#### How many Bee Butterfly boxes?

Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Lizard Lounge Box

This themed box will contain:

- A few species of small wildflowers to attract insects as a source of prey for skinks and geckoes.
- A few species of clumping and tussock plants (e.g. Lomandra, Dianella, Poa) that grow up to 1-metre tall and 1-metre wide, to provide cover for small animals.
- A few species of fruiting groundcovers where birds and lizards eat the fruits. These species grow 10-15cm tall and about 1-metre wide.
- Several small shrubs that grow up to 2-metres tall.
- Three small trees (Banksia marginata) that grow up to 5-metres tall.

One box will be enough seedlings to fill an area of approximately 25-35 square metres.

#### How many Lizard Lounge boxes?

Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Bird Bush Box

This themed box will contain:

- A few species of native grass to provide seed as food and nesting materials for birds.
- A few species of fruiting groundcovers where birds and lizards eat the fruits. These species grow 10-15cm tall and about 1-metre wide.
- A few species of small to medium sized shrubs that grow up to 4-metres tall, and that provide birds with nectar, fruits and shelter.
- Three small trees (Banksia marginata, Acacia implexa, Allocasuarina verticillata) that grow up to 5-10 metres tall.
- A climber (Hardenbergia violacea) that can grow up fences or a trellis, to provide nesting sites for small birds.

One box will be enough seedlings to fill an area of approximately 30-50 square metres.

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### How many Bird Bush boxes?

Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Bushtucker - Indigenous Culture Box

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, our First Nations peoples, use various plants as sources of food, medicine, fibre, and tools as part of their traditional cultural practices.

This themed box will contain:

- Various small wildflowers that are food plants.
- A few small to medium sized shrubs that have medicinal properties or are used to make tools.
- A few species of clumping and tussock plants that provide fruits, seed and/or fibre.
- A few species of fruiting groundcovers that grow 15cm tall and up to 1m wide.
- A couple of species of climbers that have medicinal properties.

One box will be enough seedlings to fill an area of approximately 30-50 square metres.

### How many Indigenous Culture boxes?

Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Frog Bog Box

This themed box will contain species of plants that like wet conditions and would be ideal to grow around a pond to provide frog habitat, including shelter and that attract insect prey for the adult frogs. It will include sedges, reeds, grasses, groundcovers, and wildflowers.

One box will contain enough seedlings for fill an area of approximately 20-30 square metres.

### How many Frog Bog boxes?

Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Windbreak Box

This themed box will contain:

- several species of small to large shrubs that grow 2-6m tall.
- several species of medium to tall trees that grow 10-20m tall.

One box will contain enough seedlings to plant out a windbreak or screen several metres wide and about 50 metres in length.

### How many Windbreak boxes

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Must be a number.

1-10 boxes, but max of 10 boxes across all themes.

### Other comments

**Any other comments about what you'd like selected for your school's garden?**

## School's Commitment Required

\* indicates a required field

### Seedling Delivery

Council's Urban Biodiversity Officer will deliver the boxes of seedlings to schools in early Term 3 (late July). A reminder email will be sent in June and delivery arrangements confirmed.

Your school's planting efforts could be aligned with **Schools National Tree Day**. This national annual event is celebrated on a Friday at the end of July (just before the last Sunday in July) and has been running for more than 20 years.

<https://treeday.planetark.org/get-involved/schools>

### Showcasing your school's achievements

Help Council to share your school's successes with other schools and the wider community. Council is also seeking reassurance that the seedlings were planted.

Take photographs before, during and after the planting (with parental permission). Please share a few photos or school newsletter article with Council's Urban Biodiversity Officer.

**Has your school provided images of previous Seedlings for Schools plantings:**

- Yes  
 No

### Declaration

As the school's authorised applicant, I declare that:

- all the stakeholders at the school (e.g. Principal, business manager, teachers, groundskeeper) have been consulted and are supportive of this planting project application.
- the school will commit to preparing the planting site appropriately.
- the school will commit to planting all of the seedlings as soon as possible after receiving them.
- the school will commit to maintaining the planting project.
- the school will acknowledge Hume City Council's support in any promotional materials about this planting project.

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- the school will provide photos of this planting project to Council.

### Agreement with this declaration: \*

- Yes  
 No

## File Uploads

\* indicates a required field

### Supporting documents

You can include any marked-up aerial photographs, garden designs or any photographs of the project area with your application.

Up to four files can be uploaded.

#### File 1

Attach a file:

#### File 2

Attach a file:

#### File 3

Attach a file:

#### File 4

Attach a file:

### Letter of support from school principal

If you are a parent applying for Seedlings for Schools on behalf of your child's school, then you will first need to have discussed this application with the school's Principal.

Please attach a letter of support from the Principal.

### Principal support \*

Attach a file:

## Thank You

Thanks for completing, reviewing and submitting an application for Seedlings for Schools.

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All compulsory questions with a red asterisk must be completed for the the submit button to become active.

A system-generated email will be sent to you, confirming your application has been received.

You will be notified in Term 3 or 4 this year about the outcome of your application, and if successful, the seedling order that has been placed for your school.