



## Garden/Allotment Hygiene – Extended Learning

### Keeping your plot clear of debris, rubbish and weeds

Keeping your plot clear of debris and rubbish is imperative when planning, maintaining and growing vegetables on the allotment.

Before planting ensure the plot is clean and tidy to enable the plants to get the best start.

Once the ground has been prepared and planting has begun it is important that maintenance of the plot is carried out on a regular basis ensuring best practice keeping away pests and disease.

Maintenance may include weeding, turning over the soil and keeping protective environments, sheds and potting areas clean and tidy.

Any unused pots can be stacked neatly in a recycled shelf system or in an allocated area on the plot.

These pots large or small need to be cleaned out after use, ensuring no diseases are transferred to other plants. This can be done by using a stiff scrubbing brush and warm soapy water removing soil, cobwebs or other debris from inside and outside the pot. The pots can then be left to dry before further use.

Any plants on the plot which may become infected through pests or disease should be removed immediately and disposed of by burning them in an incinerator to avoid further spread to other plants.

Debris which is left laying around a plot can create hiding places for mice, rats, slugs and snails.



Remove fallen leaves from vegetable beds as this can also be a hiding place for the mini pests as they use the leaves as shelter whilst they carry out crop destruction and have less chance of being eaten by bigger predators.

It is very important that tools are stored in an allocated place safely, avoiding any injury to anyone working on the plot.

Tools must be cleaned with warm soapy water and a stiff brush after every use before being stored away, as pests and disease can be spread from plant to plant, bed to bed by harbouring fungi, weed seeds and insect eggs.

By maintaining and achieving a clean, tidy allotment, can motivate, relieve stress, achieve exercise and create good sense of wellbeing.



## **Allotment Worksheet.**

**Why is it important to carry out regular maintenance on a vegetable plot?**

**Where can unused pots be stored?**

**Why must pots be cleaned out after use?**

**What is best practice when cleaning out a pot large or small?**

**What must be done with any plant material which has become infected by pests or disease?**

**What can happen if debris is left lying around?**

**Why must fallen leaves be cleared from plots?**

**Why must tools be cleaned after use and put away safely in an allocated area?**

What can having a clean and tidy plot create?

## Wordsearch - Allotment Hygiene

A	C	G	Q	X	L	N	Q	P	E
L	W	E	S	P	A	D	E	T	C
L	M	K	U	T	B	M	U	Y	N
O	Q	R	I	H	F	S	T	C	A
T	O	O	L	S	L	K	X	M	N
M	O	F	A	U	N	H	L	V	E
E	V	P	G	R	T	A	P	S	T
N	D	L	W	B	G	E	I	W	N
T	K	O	Z	A	S	R	Y	L	I
Y	W	T	U	T	B	I	F	O	A
H	B	Q	S	E	M	Y	K	Q	M
A	L	X	D	I	S	E	A	S	E

Allotment	Plot	Pot	Fork
Maintenance	Snail	Slug	Brush



<b>Tools</b>	<b>Spade</b>	<b>Debris</b>	<b>Pests</b>
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