School grounds focus:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be?
- How can we get there?
- Making the changes
- Using your grounds

Curriculum focus:

- ICT
- PSHE

Purpose of this activity:

- To find out what people think of their school grounds at the start of a school grounds development project.
- To consider the needs of the audience when presenting information.

Equipment and materials:

Depending on the facilities available and the ability of the pupils, some or all of the following could be used:

- digital camera (or scanner for print photographs).
- desktop publishing software; word processing software.
- multimedia presentation software (for example, PowerPoint or web-page software).
- digital video.
- GIS digital mapping software.

Preparation:

- This activity can be adapted to produce presentations aimed at a number of different audiences – you should decide what the purpose of the presentation is, and explain this to the pupils. Examples could include: comparing opinions among the class; launching a school grounds project to parents; presenting pupils' ideas to teachers.
- Decide, depending on the age and ability of pupils, on how the results will be gathered and displayed.

What to do:

- Using the prompt sheet over the page, pupils should work in pairs or small groups. Get them to choose two parts of the school grounds and decide how they are going to gather opinions about these areas (questionnaires or video interviews).
- Get them to collect and record the information in a suitable format. This could be a multipage leaflet, slide show, poster or web pages using text and images.
- Display printed outputs for the whole class and/or school.

Extensions:

- This activity can be made more challenging by including more analysis of the data – for example, comparing girls' and boys' opinions, or the variations between different ages.
- Pupils could use the same activities to find out how people would like to change the grounds.

Gathering opinions

What do you love/hate about your school grounds? Does everyone else agree with you? Your task is to research what members of the school think about the school grounds and present your findings using images and text.

Plan your research

Whose opinions are you going to ask?

- Your year group?
- Other year groups?
- Staff?
- Parents?
- How are you going to find out what they think?
- Questionnaires?
- Video interviews?

Collect your information

- Carry out your surveys or interviews.
- Take digital pictures of different parts of the grounds.

Present your information

- Where do people like and why?
- Where do they hate and why?
- Are there differences between girls and boys, or between year groups?