



# Sowing the Seed – Virtual Conference

**Date:** Wednesday, 2nd of December 2020

**Time:** 1:30 - 3:30 (2 hrs)

**Location:** From the comfort of your office/home/garden... Virtual Conference

Join us for this two-hour, interactive and engaging conference focusing on planning for your 2021 school year in the school garden. School garden programs fulfil many STEM/STEAM outcomes and encourage students to develop agency, leadership and a voice around current issues of sustainability and climate change. Whether your school has an established garden program or you're wondering how you can start the smallest of gardens at school, **Sowing the Seed** will have something for everyone.

Presenting will be a number of guest speakers who will be joining us from gardens across Victoria.

1:30 - Welcome & intro - **James McLennan | VSGP Host | Grassroots Sustainability business owner**

1:45 - Reducing school resources & bills through gardens - energy, water, waste - **Nicole Butler & Dominique Dybala | Environment Education Victoria**

2:05 - Garden to curriculum - **Will Johnston | The Geelong College**

2:25 - **Breakout** - group discussion

2:40 - 2021 Incursions opportunities - **Formidable Vegetable | Grow Do It**

2:50 - Engaging students with nature through school gardens - **Richard Bellemo | RB Landscapes**

3:10 - Call to Action - **Costa Georgiadis**

3:25 - Closing - **James McLennan**

Teachers, parents, grounds staff, admin, school leadership are welcome to attend.

**Bookings:** To register your spot [click here](#) or contact **Tania Karamitos**, Program Coordinator, Victorian Schools Garden Program **T** | 03 9576 0599 **E** | [vsqp@ngiv.com.au](mailto:vsqp@ngiv.com.au)

James, VSGP consultant, lives and breathes *Education for Sustainability* and has worked extensively in the sustainability sector. As well as a fruitful history of partnering with schools on education programs, James has worked with small to medium business, NFP's, councils and corporate and government bodies. He has recently launched his own business, **Grassroots Sustainability**.



**Environment Education Victoria (EEV)** is the peak body for Sustainability and Environment Education. EEV connects with individuals and organisations across early learning centres, primary schools, secondary schools and universities. Their membership and support extends to the broader community, Local Government and the corporate sector.

**The Geelong College**, Year 4 Program is a year-long environmental immersion program for all Year 4 students. The program began in 2001 as a response to the notion that there is a growing disconnect between young people and nature.



**RB Landscapes'** vision is for schools to have a hands-on sustainability precinct where ecological practices can be taught to their students. Through the construction of these outdoor areas, students have the opportunity to collect and manage their own water, grow, cook and eat their own produce and get a clear, hands-on understanding of how the environment and nature works.

**Grow Do It's** dynamic and exciting regenerative-living workshops use music and the arts to encourage innovative, sustainable solutions to current local & global environmental and social challenges. Grow Do It incursions deliver hands-on activities, games, song writing and interactive performances with highly engaging educational content suitable for all ages.



With a wheelbarrow full of dirty electro radish-beets, crusty jazz ukulele, swingin' strings and hyperactive horns, Formidable Vegetable are here to sow the garden of your mind with seeds of future-resilience in the funkiest way possible.



"So infectious that the most ardent climate sceptic would have trouble staying still" - Sydney Morning Herald.

**Costa** is a vibrant change maker, a connector of people, a voice for reason, a lover of nature, and, perhaps above all else, a teacher. He is also the host of the ABC's Gardening Australia program and VSGP advocate. A landscape architect and permaculturalist, Costa's real passion is food. He has an infectious energy and ability to relate to everyone he meet.