



## Green Schools

### Summary of project

For several years, the Stanisław Karłowski Foundation has been organising "Green Schools" programme for primary school pupils, on their biodynamic Juchowo Farm. One of the partners of this project is Janusz Korczak Waldorf School in Krakow. The students come to the farm for a whole week, carry out self-guided learning in different areas and explore how a farm functions and what it means to produce food with respect for the land, animals and plants. The aim of the project is to give young people the opportunity to discover where their food comes from and to see how much human input is behind the food they eat. It is hoped that these insights will provide young people with a renewed respect for land and agricultural production, as well as encouraging considered eating habits.



### Who is involved?

Students from the 7th grade of the Waldorf School in Krakow, their teachers and parents; as well as employees of the Karłowski Foundation's education department.

### Key steps

Students live for 7 days on the farm. Every morning, they feed the animals and then later, during the day, they will be planting in the herb garden, cultivating and harvesting herbs (depending on the season and needs), as well as in the vegetable garden weeding and harvesting. In addition, every day the children have themed classes relating to organic farming and the processing of milk and vegetables. Students also learn how to prepare compost in a school garden; how to set up and run a school garden; how to bake bread and cottage cheese back in school; as well as making salads from a variety of vegetables found on the farm. Dinner is always prepared by the students themselves from the farm products. This helps the children to understand the process of food production from the field to the table.





### **How are the children involved?**

Children are the main focus of this project. They participate in everyday life on the farm, have direct contact with animals and plants, learn new life skills and start to understand more the importance of respect for the land and animals.

The project also links back to the work that is being done in school and aims to take their learning on the residential visit from field to school. One year before, in sixth grade, the children start gardening lessons where, once a week, each child works two hours in a school garden. The skills that are learnt during the visit, such as composting and garden planning, are then taken back to the school and used in the school garden. Children have taken the learning from their visits and used it to develop their garden at the Waldorf School.

### **How is the project linked to the school curriculum?**

Teachers of the Janusz Korczak Waldorf School in Krakow are directly using the knowledge gained by students in biology, geography, ecology, entrepreneurship and chemistry lessons.

### **Positive outcomes**

Teachers and parents are happy that children are involved in the project and that they are learning new practical skills such as growing plants, taking care for animals and preparing of meals.

Feedback from the children has been positive and they remember their experiences and impressions from the Juchowo Farm for a long time.

