



Growchapel

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Growchapel?

Growchapel is a welcoming space where the local community can apply for a growing allotment plot for vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers. Developed through partnership working and led by the community of Drumchapel, the site can be accessed by the local community and organisations, whether they are growing, socialising or using the site for some peace and quiet. Everyone is welcome in the space, where diversity and creativity are encouraged.

Where is the site?

The site sits around the old football pitch between Halgreen Avenue and Abbotshall Avenue, Drumchapel, G15 8AA. Before development the site was an undeveloped open green space, but it will now feature several new areas to boost horticultural and biodiversity developments. Access from the site will be from Halgreen Avenue and Abbotshall Avenue.

What is around the site?

The Drumchapel site is situated next to Antonine Primary School, a short walk from Hecla Park, the old Pavilion, tennis courts and bowling greens. It is close to local amenities, children's play parks, sports grounds, community library and community centre. Connectivity to Glasgow City and Clydebank is made convenient from the nearby A82. There are a range of extensive walkways, open green spaces, residential areas and welcoming community groups and organisations in walking distance.

What will the site look like?

The site is roughly 6000m², with around 22 allotment plots available for community growing in phase one. The site will be developed over two stages:

Phase 1: Started in May 2021, and due to finish mid-July 2021, will develop the civil works on site including new pathways, drainage system, composting toilet and a community storage cabin. A scented sitooterie where people can socialise or relax will also be developed, as well as the first 22 growing plots.

Phase 2: Likely to start in 2022, where will see further development on the site, including an outdoor learning area, additional growing plots, a pizza oven and outdoor social space. There will also be fruit trees and foraging hedgerows and wildflower areas to increase the biodiversity of the site.

How can I apply for an allotment plot?

Expression of Interest forms have now been launched, we would encourage interested parties to have a look at the guidance before applying and get in touch with the team if they have any questions.

The Growchapel Steering Group will look at applications on a first come first served basis and will keep you updated on the status of your application.

I need a paper copy of the application form; how do I get one?

Please contact glasgowfoodgrowing@glasgow.gov.uk to request a paper application which will be sent to you through the post. The team can help anyone having difficulties in filling out the form.

How much work will it take to maintain a plot?

Plots will require a level of work to get started and keep them maintained and healthy, please consider how many hours you might be able to commit to a plot before you apply. We recommend the following level of attention for each plot size, however that is dependent on a number of factors, including the crops you choose to grow:

Plot	Size	Avg. Hours Maintenance Over the Year
Full Plot	Avg 150m2	150-200
Half Plot	Avg 75m2	75-100
Raised Bed	2m2	80

I already have an allotment plot in Glasgow but this one is closer; can I move to this plot/ have two plots?

No, the demand for growing spaces in Glasgow would rule this out. You could apply for a space at Growchapel and maintain your current plot until such times as a space becomes available. You would be required to relinquish any other plot on a Glasgow City Council allotment should you have a plot at Growchapel.

Do I have to pay for a plot?

Yes, the current annual rental fee for plots are as follows:

Full Plot	£34.50
Full Plot concession	£25.00
Half Plot	£17.25
Half Plot concession	£12.50
Raised bed (no concession available)	£8.65

Please note these prices are subject to review ongoing and there may also be an association fee to be paid. We don't want funding to be a barrier for any applicants. If applicants need financial support for their plot there will be support available.

Can individuals and organisations apply for a plot?

Yes, we would encourage local residents and organisations, housing associations, youth groups, health improvement groups, the voluntary sector and charities to apply for their own plot which volunteers can link in to help with.

If I get a plot, do I need to have my own tools, bulbs and seeds?

Shared tools will be available on site and should be cleaned and returned to storage after use. You are welcome to bring your own tools on site if you have them.

Not everyone wants to grow the same things so plot holders would be expected to bring their own bulbs and seeds for their site. There will be assistance to get bulbs or seeds if it is required.

What if I take a plot on and then I struggle to maintain it?

We would encourage everyone to read the FAQs and the Let's Go Growchapel! document to learn more about plot maintenance and growing commitment for each size of plot before applying. Where plot holders are finding plot maintenance harder than expected support and assistance will be provided. If a plot is not being maintained after a level of support is offered or a plot holder no longer wants the space, this plot may have to go to someone else on the waiting list.

Successful applicants will receive a starter pack detailing how to start their plot. Induction days will be held on site to ensure everyone gets the support they require.

I don't live in Drumchapel; can I still submit an application?

Yes, however priority for plots on the Growchapel site in year 1 would be with residents of the G15 post code. Should the site be full your application would be added to the waiting list.

If I don't apply for/ I'm not successful in getting a plot is there anything else I can get involved in within the site?

The grounds are available for everyone to visit for socialising, to enjoy the outdoors, sit and relax or connect with new people.

If people want to do any environmental work on site but don't want to take a plot there are a lot of opportunities available and we can also link you in with various surrounding environmental/ clean up groups. You could even volunteer on site with local organisations who have a plot to work with them on maintaining their space.

If you have a passion for growing and want to share your stories and knowledge with others, we would be grateful of any time you can spend in the garden, helping and teaching others, assisting other generations and even running some workshops on site if you're keen!

Behind the scenes in Growchapel we have a Steering Group, helping to progress the site. There are also opportunities to develop the site further by becoming a member of the Governance Team or Funding Steering Group. You may need to apply to the

organisation, fill in a volunteer form and complete a PVG, Protection of Vulnerable Groups checks.

I would be interested in getting a plot with a few friends/ family members, would this be allowed?

Yes, although the plot would require a named individual to ensure there is accountability for the plot.

Will the site be secure and have toilet facilities/ power/ running water?

The site is all within a secure fence line, the site gates will be locked, and plot holders will be provided with the access code for entry. Public Space CCTV may be used from around the local vicinity to monitor the site if required.

There will be a composting toilet on site, from phase one and it will be the responsibility of each person to clean it after use.

It is not intended to provide a mains water connection or power connection as we seek to encourage growers to incorporate sustainable practices such as rainwater harvesting and employing the use of micro wind turbines and solar panels to generate the small amounts of power that may be required on site.

We are also keen to ensure that the site can become economically sustainable and the additional costs of providing mains water and power would put a significant financial burden on the site.

Can I choose what plot I want on site?

While every effort to facilitate you choosing your plot will be made, we will be required to collate all expressions of interest seek a consensus from those applying for plots on their plot choice. Where this can be achieved amicably, you would be in a position to choose your own plot however where more than one applicant seeks a specific plot, we would carry out a ballot to determine who gets which plot.

Can I grow whatever I want in my plot?

Yes, the plot is yours to grow vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers. Whether you keep it for your own household or for the local community. Help and guidance will be available if needed.

How can you ensure covid-19 guidelines and restrictions are adhered to onsite?

That would be the responsibility of all participants to self-police. Each one of us have a personal responsibility to ensure they work within the most relevant COVID -19 guidance. Information will be available on this and will be updated in line with Scottish Government updates. There is intended to be a management committee who will oversee the day to day work of the site however this will not remove the personal responsibilities mentioned earlier. Your induction pack will feature the full

health and safety guidelines for the site which all users of the site will be required to adhere to.

Who do I contact for more information?

You can contact the Growchapel Steering Group at any point for more information at Growchapel@gmail.com and someone from the team will be happy to help.