

# DONCASTER COLLEGE

## Rural Development and Sustainability

Steve Hall and Darren Whitaker

# Health and Welfare

Simply- Better, Cheaper, Food  
Through Exposure and Doing

Doncaster- 'Fat Town'  
All the Reason Some of the  
Answers

# Rural Development and Sustainability

Doncaster College is embarking on a sustainable plan/programme to engage the borough in all things rural

Food growing on several layers

Energy / Carbon Issues

Education/ Training

The college being a benchmark centre for information-practical help and supply. A visual and practical resource open to the borough. Directing and participating in best practice and innovation

# Rural Development and Sustainability

From three chickens in the garden to a herd of cattle roaming the range.

From log burning stoves to industrial biomass infrastructure

Achievable through partnership

# Major Partnerships

Education- Natural England  
Doncaster Borough Council } New Build  
Forestry }  
Authority Biomass } EON

Practical- Drax  
Natural England  
Doncaster Borough Council Woodland

Moral- DMBC National Health Service

# Darren Whitaker

## Assistant Manager

### Field to Fork Project

- To Move towards making Doncaster College self-sufficient in Organic Vegetables, Meat, and Fruit.
- Materials to be sourced from no more than 15 miles from the centre of Doncaster.
- Develop the education provision around the project

# HOW

- Nursery on site at High Melton producing a range of vegetables, and other produce
- Partnerships other growers
- Fruit  
Hosting a collection of rare breed fruit trees and soft fruit for the RHS Northern Fruit Group
- Honey

# HOW

## Meat

- Hebridean and Whitefaced Woodland Sheep on nature reserves, SSSI`s
- Saddleback pigs in our woods and growing areas, Rented out to other people for clearance, and woodland management, Bracken Control and Knotweed (Trialing)
- Red Poll Cattle on SSSI`s

# Education

- Grow your own staff- Modern Apprentices
  - Level 1 and 2 work based Diploma's in Horticulture (NVQ)
- Full Cost Sprayer and Chainsaw Courses
- Forest School, Children's University
- Specialist courses- Fruit tree grafting
- Bee Keeping

# Future

- Supply local Schools
- Supply Borough through local market
- Box Schemes
- Aquaculture, Aquaponics
- Build on existing Animal Husbandry courses in conjunction with GAP
- Range of general interest courses, Green Woodwork, Small Holding, Bushcraft
- Expand countryside management,
- Micro Vineyard/ Brewery