

INCREDIBLE EDIBLE LAMBETH


SOUTH BANK
& WATERLOO
sustains us



SUPPORTING LOCAL FOOD GROWTH AND EDUCATING ALL ON SUSTAINABILITY

Introduction

An organisation anchored in the area, Incredible Edible Lambeth is a community action group that aims to create a connected, happier and healthier society through the power of sustainable food production. They are creating greener ways of living in South Bank and Waterloo by helping people rethink their approach to food and healthy eating.



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The challenge

Across London, food poverty is increasing. The rise in Food Bank use shows that for many people, especially those on low incomes, securing cost-effective, healthy food is a daily struggle. Making good food available, reducing food waste, and championing high production standards is essential.

Education also matters, helping children think about where food comes from and understand the benefits of eating well is important for communities everywhere, especially when it comes to building a harmonious and healthy future for all.



The approach

Working with partners in the neighbourhood to share practical ways to make positive changes and learn from and help each other.

The ambition is to create a localised food network in the community, providing an abundance of affordable, nutritious fruit and vegetables, with a space to grow fresh food within 100m of every home in Lambeth. This involves:

Bringing together the local community

Through growing and celebrating great food, helping people of all ages and backgrounds to identify, secure and transform suitable patches of land into food growing spaces. For example, with the 'Edible Marsh' project, they have worked tirelessly in the Lower Marsh area, planting tomatoes, cucumbers, chillies, herbs and edible flowers in boxes placed along the street, making the market a home for quality fresh food.

Visitors to the market can also get involved in a range of fun activities, from gardening workshops to flower arranging.

The approach (cont.)

Seasonal events at Oasis Farm Waterloo

At an urban farm and community resource just moments from the South Bank, this community showcases how sustainable farm systems can work to make food better for everyone, run a range of practical workshops, and grow delicious fruit and veg on site.

Supporting local schools with growing projects to help students to discover, cultivate and enjoy healthy food

Partnering with Sprout Up Schools has allowed them to have a real impact, ensuring schools can make the most of their existing outdoor spaces, so that young people can reconnect with nature and explore the exciting possibilities of growing their own food.

Championing food growers' rights and sustainable action

Through campaigning, pushing for a new law in the House of Commons that will give people the 'Right to Grow' on local public land.

Results

From litter picks to weed pulling to spring bulb planting, the visible impact of their work is everywhere to be seen. The 'Edible Marsh' initiative has helped Lower Marsh become a go-to destination for keen gardeners and food lovers across Waterloo and South Bank. Meanwhile, their popular Youth Volunteer programme, run in partnership with Lambeth Libraries, provides young people with opportunities to support their local community in a safe and supportive environment.

“Edible Marsh’s aim is to enhance the Lower Marsh greenery while inviting customers, tourists and locals to enjoy their lunch break by getting green-fingered and learning how to sow seeds and grow edible plants.”

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Find out more

Visit [Incredible Edible Lambeth's website](#) to read more about their work.

You can also book a place on one of their **free guided walks**, a chance to explore local green spaces and meet other residents looking to make a positive change.

Read more [here](#) about South Bank and Waterloo's action plan for a fairer, greener neighbourhood.

