CHILDREN DIG UP SCHOOL GROUNDS WITH HELP FROM SCHRODERS

Woodland Trust and Schroders help pupils from across Norfolk to create new havens for wildlife.

Schools from across Norfolk are being invited to join forces with the Woodland Trust, the UK's leading woodland conservation charity, and Schroders, a global asset management organisation, to plant a native tree pack in their grounds. Schroders are kindly funding 25 packs for Schools throughout the County. All schools have to do is register for a free pack online by the 25th January at the dedicated website which is - www.woodland-trust.org.uk/hedge. The trees and shrubs are all native broad-leaved which means, that with a little luck, they will be growing on well into the next century when the children's grandchildren will be able to inspect their handiwork.

It's all part of the Woodland Trust's Tree For All campaign - the largest children's treeplanting mission the UK has ever seen. Launched in 2004, the five-year project will see one million children plant 12 million trees. It's hoped that through the simple act of planting trees, children will grow up with a respect for the environment.

Paul Bunton of the Woodland Trust says: "Even schools with quite small grounds will often be able to accommodate one of our hedge or copse packs which can inspire children to really get in touch with nature and learn about the ecology of these wonderful habitats."

Planting and using a hedge or copse pack can contribute to Key Stage 2 in science, numeracy, literacy and art and design. Each hedge and copse pack comes with full instructions on how to plant and care for the trees as well as worksheets to help the children learn about the trees they are planting and teacher's notes on the exercises."

Paul Bunton continues: "For many of these children, this will be the first time they had ever planted a tree. Educating today's children about the benefit of looking after our environment will help protect the forests of tomorrow. By planting and looking after these hedges and copses the children are contributing to a greener future for all of us."

Further information about Tree For All can be found at www.treeforall.org.uk