

The Formentera Council's Office of Agriculture has announced that from this Thursday, October 20, signups will begin for the third round of children's farming classes and continue through November 1. The workshops get under way on Friday November 4 and are scheduled to run through June. Participants can choose one of three sessions: Fridays from 4.00 to 5.30pm, Saturdays from 10.00 to 11.30am or Saturdays from 11.30am to 1.00pm.

Approximately 10 children will be allowed in each group, which will be established on a first come, first served basis and according to the preferences given at the time of enrolment. The introductory course is free and is recommended for children aged 4 to 12. Classes will be held at the Hort dels nens, Formentera's vegetable patch for kids located near Sant Francesc's sa Tanca Vella chapel. Participants are asked to come in comfortable clothes and shoes and equipped with a bottle of water. The Office of Agriculture will open a wait list for children who enrol past the established deadline.

Agriculture councillor Bartomeu Escandell said the decision to offer the course for the second straight year centred on the positive feedback received on the back of the two previous courses, one of which was held during the school year and the other in summer. The goal, he said, is for local children to be familiar with and enjoy field work: “These are activities that have a long history here on our island”, he noted. Escandell highlighted his office's mission of reviving the Formentera countryside. If the task is to be achieved, he said, “it's important we start early”.