

Stroud Seedbank would like to reach out to your local community to find a few budding growers who may be interested in becoming a seed saving mentor for your community. The seeds will be grown and saved from your gardens, allotments and growing spaces and distributed from different community hubs at the centre of your local area i.e. village shop. Hubs that we are already in communication with include: Paganhill Café, The Long Table, Horsley Community Shop, Chalford Community Shop and Whiteshill and Ruscombe Community Shop, Trinity Rooms.

Please see below for a role description, please note that this is a voluntary role for anyone with a passion for seed saving, growing and community.

Local Seed Bank - Mentor Role Description

Our vision is to have seed saving mentors supporting new local seed banks in each local area of Stroud, they will be seed bank branching off from the main Stroud Seed Bank which is already in action. These local seed banks will be based on the model of Stroud Community Seed Bank and will become part of a network of seed banks across Stroud. This structure can help to ensure diversity and local adaption of seed, Stroud self-reliance and increased community engagement with the importance of seed saving.

Seed guardian mentors will help others in the community seed movement, you do not need to be an expert seed saver to become a mentor. A mentor will share their knowledge, experience, and offer guidance on how to grow and save seeds. They will be able to point people towards where they can get further information on seed saving in the local area and online.

These mentors will have an essential role in supporting their local area to set up a seed bank. It is important that Mentors feel they can personalise their 'mentorship' working with the role in the best way that suits them.

A seed saving mentor is a voluntary role. A mentor will:

- Be a point of contact for a seed bank start up in your local area
- Share any knowledge and experience you have about seed saving (this may not be much!)
- Communicate with seed guardians and other seed coordinators via a communication method that works for you: google groups, email, whatsapp etc.
- Be involved in developing promotional material to gather seed guardians, organise events, gatherings. i.e. creating posters for your local shop, using Facebook to share what you are up to etc.
- Be welcomed to suggest ideas and comments to support the development of the seed bank model and structure

Questions for you:

Which area would you be interested in becoming a seed mentor for?

Would you be happy to share the role with one or two other local seed mentors?

We are developing this idea naturally, one step at a time, therefore the network will develop slowly and surely but will depend on the interest and availability of the community. We have built up Stroud's seed bank in 5 years - we can do this in your area too!