



# Environmental and Land Based

**Type of Placement:** A group placement to a farm supported by FACE.

**Curriculum Link:** Environmental and Land Based Diploma.

**Summary of Main Benefits:**

- Discussion of support for the new diploma
- Networking
- Careers information

**Description:**

Teachers travelled the breadth of the county of Somerset – from Frome in the east and Minehead in the west – to Blackmore Farm near Bridgwater for a fascinating Professional Development Placement facilitated by Paul Hillard of Farming And Countryside Education (FACE).

Farmer Ian Dyer provided an overview of the farm structure and scale before the seven participants visited the buildings, the stock and the fields to see what was going on.

The Farm Shop selling homemade and local produce was a favourite stop on the route as Ian explained the family strategy for making the business less reliant on simply agricultural returns.

There was an excellent opportunity for networking and discussion of the implications of the new Diploma in Environmental and Land-Based Studies before teachers experienced the delights of a Blackmore Farm lunch. Ann Dyer then led a tour of the nationally recognised bed and breakfast facilities in the historic farmhouse.

**Outcomes:**

- Work-related learning examples
- Increased knowledge of business and diversification issues
- Future links



This year is the Year of Food and Farming so visit their website for ideas. [www.yearoffoodandfarming.org.uk](http://www.yearoffoodandfarming.org.uk) Remember to tap into organisations which represent sectors such as FACE.