The Formentera Council has organised a course on home composting to take place Saturday 12 March in the primary school of la Mola. Residents interested in attending can sign up at the office of environment located on *carrer* Mallorca in Sant Ferran. Led by specialist Juanjo Torres of the group Amics de la Terra, the course costs €20 per person, but, as department head Daisee Aguilera pointed out in her office's presentation of the course this morning, participants will each come away with a compost bin valued at €100, as well as the knowledge of how to use it.

“Residents will have the opportunity to see how waste can be transformed into usable products. This helps people reduce the environmental impact of what they do at home”, said Aguilera. Councillor Aguilera highlighted the Formentera Council's efforts to revitalise the local countryside and said the goal of the composting classes is “to give Formentera residents the tools to use organic waste and scraps to enrich their land”. “Any waste we can reuse is waste that doesn't end up at the Es cap de Barbaria transfer plant”, she noted.

Hazel Morgan, a representative of Amics de la Terra, called the home composting push important because “it's the most sustainable way to make use of the organic waste generated at the domestic level”. For his part, Torres called home composting “surprisingly easy” and encouraged residents to seize the opportunity of the classes. He noted that compost can be used both in the garden and vegetable patch.

Composting for young people

Staff specialist Javier Asensio announced plans to hold the course at the la Mola primary school – a model site, given that the school's own vegetable garden already serves as a lesson in home composting for la Mola kids. Asensio said that beyond the course itself, which will be both theory-based and hands-on, Amics de la Terra also envisions “phone-based support and a follow-up visit to each student's home” to make sure the compost bins are being used correctly.

All additional costs will be covered by the Council; so far this has meant a contribution of

€3,000. Organisers hope to schedule a second version of the course before summer starts. Between this Saturday's course and a second one, the Council says some 50 residents can benefit. The course is included as part of the activities programme for the 15th Olimpíada Pagesa. Organisers thanked the Olimpíada's planning team for their support and the Trasmapi company for helping with travel costs.