

Notes for Applicants

Wild Forest School www.wildforestschool.org.uk

We have been delivering Forest School sessions in school grounds and local green spaces for over 10 years. Since 2015, the Trust has received valuable funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery, enabling us to run our Wild Forest School project.

Wild Forest School provides fun, engaging opportunities for children in Leicester - some of whom have never had the chance to explore the outdoors – to experience the natural world and discover nature through a range of wild activities.

In 2020, Wild Forest School activities include:

- Forest School sessions with groups of 12 children from 7 Leicester primary schools
- Forest School sessions with 5 groups of home educated children
- Running 4 Wild Tots pre-school groups
- Delivering 4 training sessions on our Wild About Learning teachers pack
- Running a wildlife art competition for Leicester city primary schools.

Other Forest School work

In addition to the above, we work with nursery/pre-schools and schools outside of Leicester city who would like us to run sessions with them. We also run sessions with Muslim home educators who do not want to be part of our lottery-funded project.

Outreach Education Programmes

We offer schools a programme of Woodland Workshops which can be delivered in their grounds or a local green space. We also run Forest School Taster Days, in partnership with the University of Leicester Botanic Garden.

The Woodland Workshops/Forest School taster days give pupils the opportunity to experience elements of Forest School, without having to take part in a full six week programme.

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust

The Trust at a Glance

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust was founded in 1956 and is a registered charity (no. 210531) and a company limited by guarantee (no. 561833). It is a membership organisation, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. More than 16,000 members currently support the Trust's work.

The Trust is managed by a Council of Trustees, elected from its members, who provide the overall direction for the development of the Trust. The day-to-day work of the Trust is delivered by a team of 39 staff assisted by more than 700 active volunteers.

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is one of 47 separate Wildlife Trusts that form a powerful conservation network of local charities taking effective action to protect the UK's unique natural heritage. Together we have over 850,000 members, manage more than 2,300 nature reserves, run thousands of projects and events and work together to ensure that both local and national policies and decisions are in the best interest of wildlife and wild places.

Our Mission

To protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland and to engage people with nature.

Our Vision

A Living Landscape rich in wildlife, valued and enjoyed by all.

Our work

The Trust works to safeguard wildlife by:

Protecting precious places

We care for 35 nature reserves covering 1,234 hectares (3,048 acres), spread across Leicestershire and Rutland. From woodland to meadows, wetland to heaths, these reserves contain a rich variety of animal and plant species, many rare.

Encouraging people to enjoy nature

We offer everyone the chance to experience some of Leicestershire and Rutland's fantastic wildlife. Activities and events are organised throughout the year, everything from badger watches to the Birdfair.

Inspiring and educating

We invest in the future by helping people of all ages to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of nature. Children can take part too – our junior club Wildlife Watch is for young people who want to find out more about wildlife, make friends and have fun.

Research and survey

We monitor, study and survey the wildlife of our counties to identify special places and important species, to inform management and promote nature conservation; and to protect local biodiversity.

Speaking out

We campaign for wildlife, protecting threatened habitats like wildflower meadows and rare species such as ospreys, otters, bats and water voles.

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