



**Worcestershire**  
Wildlife Trust

## Senior Wilder Schools Officer – Job Description

<b>Role:</b>	Senior Wilder Schools Officer
<b>Job purpose:</b>	You will lead on our learning strategy of building nature connection and increasing confidence in young people across the county to enjoy and understanding nature and the outdoors. You will manage, oversee and support the wilder schools team to deliver the school strategy through school trips, school outreach and our Wilder Schools programme that supports teachers to take learning outdoors.
<b>Contract type:</b>	Permanent
<b>Hours:</b>	Full-time 35 hours per week 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday. Part-time of 4 days / 0.8FTE will be considered
<b>Salary:</b>	c £31,000 FTE
<b>Reporting to:</b>	Head of Fundraising and Engagement
<b>Staff management:</b>	Wilder Learning Development Officer, Wilder Schools Officer, sessional tutors
<b>Other key relationships:</b>	Volunteer teams (school, assembly, garden and wild art volunteers), Wildlife and Farming Officer, safeguarding leads, engagement team members and Honorary Officer for Fundraising and Engagement (trustee)

### About us

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust is the county's leading nature conservation charity working for nature's recovery. We own or manage over 75 nature reserves across 3,000 acres of Worcestershire. These amazing sites range from woodlands and meadows to heathlands and wetlands and are home to over 10,000 species. We also engage with communities to improve the understanding of the natural world and to inspire people to take action to improve spaces for wildlife where they live. Schools are an important part of this work and for over 30 years the Trust has run an education service at Lower Smite Farm, engaging between 2,000-3,000 pupils each year. We also provide school outreach

opportunities including our free assembly service, which has delivered to nearly 100 schools in the county, and our innovative creative science workshops.

More information about our school offer can be found

[www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/schools](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/schools)

We aim to inspire, empower and engage people from all backgrounds, cultures, identities and abilities as well as cultivate inclusive workplaces. Find out more -

[www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/wild-about-inclusion](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/wild-about-inclusion)

We are one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK. To find out more about the Trust and its work, please see [www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/](http://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/)

## **About the role**

Now, more than ever, we need to support our young people to navigate a changing and challenging world. Our school strategy aims to encourage creative, curious and critical learners to equip our young people with the knowledge and skills to tackle the biodiversity and climate crises. By 2030 we want one in four schools taking action for wildlife in Worcestershire. This is an ambitious role and exciting opportunity to push forward the delivery of the new school strategy and natural learning journey. The learning journey, comprised of four steps (grow, connect, demonstrate, together), has been developed to support staff and pupils grow a connection to nature and facilitate ways for schools to become more confident and skilled in delivering outdoor sessions where children learn in, about and for nature. The post-holder will grow the natural learning journey, develop a model to move schools through the journey and track their progress. At the heart of this is overseeing and helping to deliver core elements of our school offer and working with the wilder schools team and our school partners to develop new programmes and workshops.

## **Role specification**

### **Strategy development**

- Develop and test a natural learning journey model with the wilder schools team and school partners
- Lead on monitoring and tracking progress of schools as they move through the natural learning journey
- Manage several project streams and facilitate staff and volunteers to achieve key aims
- Work with the wilder schools team and school partners to test new programmes to reach a wider range of young people

- Lead on monitoring and progressing ambition to double the number of young people reached through school engagement work and to achieve one in four schools taking action for nature by 2030
- Lead on development of the youth (KS3 and KS4) provision and support the team to grow awareness of this area of work
- Ensure financial sustainability for school service and projects through identifying potential funding streams
- Work with the fundraising team to communicate fundable projects and complete funding applications
- Lead on building a network of learning partners that provide support and share experiences in outdoor learning
- Work with the wider team to cultivate an ongoing connection with children and their families

### **Line management**

- Lead the wilder schools team (including sessional tutors and volunteers) to achieve the aims of the school strategy
- Support the Wilder Learning Development Officer to deliver the Wilder Schools project to develop teacher confidence to take learning outdoors
- Support the Wilder Schools Officer and sessional tutors to deliver school trips to Lower Smite Farm
- Support the Wilder Schools Officer to grow our offer for upper KS2 and KS3
- Work with the volunteer team on ensuring delivery of assemblies, school trip assistance and maintenance of the learning garden
- Management of the staff team, including regular one-to-ones, appraisals and training

### **School delivery**

- Facilitate and support with the delivery of school trips during term time for EYFS – KS1, KS2 and KS3
- Support the Wilder Learning Development Officer to deliver aspects of the Wilder Schools programme
- Support the assembly volunteers to carry out assemblies and deliver assemblies where needed
- Lead on delivering the creative science workshops and building on the existing art initiatives developed by the wild art volunteers
- Manage school booking admin including updating booking diary, setting sessional shifts, sending out paperwork and confirming visit bookings

### **Health and safety**

- To oversee the production and maintenance of outdoor learning resources. This includes monitoring equipment, site checks, risk assessments, reporting damage and ensuring safe storage of equipment.

- Liaise with the safeguarding team and lead on embedding safeguarding in the wider schools team

### **Contribute to the overall work of the Trust**

- Attend and contribute to team meetings, training days and others as required
- Assist with, attend and support Trust events, activities etc as required that are relevant to project objectives
- To carry out all other such duties and may from time to time be determined by the Head of Fundraising and Engagement

### **Post-holder specification**

While we have set out expectations of the postholder below, please still apply, even if you feel that you don't meet all the requirements.

#### **Experience:**

- Experience of project management and delivering several project streams
- Experience of line managing a team with a focus on collaborative and reflective practice
- Experience of building relationships with teachers and senior leaders
- Teaching experience, including outdoor learning, with one or more of the following key stages EYS – KS1 KS2 or KS3
- Understanding and experience of formal or informal teaching in the outdoors
- Experience of designing and delivering fun, inclusive and hands-on learning sessions
- Experience of designing engaging learning resources to support teachers
- Experience of running safe sessions, briefing groups on how to access spaces and activities safely
- Safeguarding and first aider trained

#### **Knowledge:**

- Good understanding and recent application of the current national curriculum
- Good understanding of safeguarding policies and practice
- Understanding of evaluation and monitoring practices to demonstrate programme impact
- Trained in, or experience through delivery of, outdoor learning techniques e.g. Forest School, bushcraft, earth walks, storytelling, fieldwork, art utilising nature, place-based pedagogy
- A basic understanding of local wildlife and ecology issues

#### **Skills:**

- Strong communication skills able to persuade, achieve compromise and facilitate discussions
- Ability to enthuse and motivate children in whole class situations

- Able to get the best out of a team through working cooperatively and in collaboration with both staff and volunteer teams
- Ability to work flexibly, use initiative and problem-solve

**Personal Qualities:**

- Personal enthusiasm for the benefits of connecting pupils and teaching staff with nature for wellbeing, learning and the planet
- A reflective practitioner
- Self-motivated
- Commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion

This role will require a full, clean driving licence and will be subject to reference checks and a DBS enhanced check with child barred list.

July 2025