



Job Description



Wessex
Rivers Trust

Title:	Watercress and Winterbournes Education Officer (P/T)
Salary:	£ 25,000 (pro-rata) plus Employer's Pension Contribution
Contract:	Fixed-Term Contract to end of March 2025
Hours:	Part-time, 0.6 FTE (3 days per week)
Location:	Wessex RT Head Office, W&W Satellite Office
Responsible to:	Chief Executive

Background

Wessex Rivers Trust (Wessex RT) is an environmental charity, dedicated to the protection and conservation of rivers and chalk streams in the Wessex area. Wessex RT is a small but rapidly growing regional Trust at the cutting edge of the Rivers Trust movement, the umbrella organisation looking after most of the UK's and Ireland's rivers.

Wessex RT is a key partner in a programme led by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) that has secured £1.9m funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to deliver an innovative 5-year chalk stream focused Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) – Watercress and Winterbournes. Together with partner match funding, this pioneering £3.1m scheme will focus on improving the resilience of our globally rare chalk streams through key partnerships and community action. This project will run from 2020 to 2025 and will rely on a dedicated team of staff of which a Watercress and Winterbournes Education Officer will be employed by Wessex RT.

Job summary and purpose

The Watercress and Winterbournes Education Officer (WWEO) will be responsible for **supporting the delivery of the Watercress and Winterbourne Landscape Partnership Scheme** by working closely with the other Watercress and Winterbourne LPS staff as well as Wessex RT's Education staff.

The Education Officer will lead on the delivery of **education programmes for schools and home education groups**. This will include adapting the Trust's existing primary school programmes such as 'Mayfly in the Classroom' and the 'Story of Chalk Streams' as well as developing and delivering programmes online and with a focus on older students.

Furthermore, the Education Officer will **produce resource materials and give training** for teachers, other education professionals as well as volunteers to help them deliver local heritage activities.

The role will also include the delivery of a **programme of activities around winterbournes** for uniformed groups and other (voluntary) organisations in the seven local catchments.

Duties and responsibilities

1 Education

- 1 Deliver the Watercress & Winterbournes Landscape Partnership Scheme education programmes working closely together with the other W&W LPS staff and the Trust education staff
- 2 Develop and deliver education programmes for secondary schools and other young peoples' groups as relevant
- 3 Monitor, record and evaluate the effectiveness of the education programmes through feedback from learners, teachers and other participants and provide evaluation data and reports for the NLHF
- 4 Recruit, train, and manage education volunteers as required
- 5 Manage the administration of the W&W education and school travel grants programme by maintaining records and, working closely with LPS staff and Trust staff, producing reports to NHLF and communications as required
- 6 Maintain high standards of safety and welfare for learners, education volunteers, teachers and the local community

2 Education training

- 1 Deliver training and events to build skills and capacity among educational professionals and volunteers
- 2 Develop educational resources to be used in schools and other educational settings

3 Contributing to the work of the Wessex RT *in general*

- 1 Contribute to the Trust's external communications (e.g. through websites, social media and presentations), profile and good reputation
- 2 Positively contribute to the reputation of the Trust and the NLHF Watercress & Winterbournes Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Person specification

1	Qualifications and required knowledge	Essential	Desirable
1	Educated to a degree level in a relevant field of environmental science / education or equivalent	X	
2	Sound knowledge of the schools system and the National Curriculum	X	
3	Knowledge of river ecosystems: ecology & species	X	
4	Aware of environmental issues impacting chalk streams and winterbournes.		X
5	An understanding of the principles of engaging with and involving children, young people and adults in nature conservation	X	

2	Experience	Essential	Desirable
1	Experience of working in outdoor education	X	
2	Producing and/or working with a range of educational materials and media	X	
3	Good time and budget management, including successful fundraising		X
4	Proven record of organising and delivering events at different scales and to different audiences	X	
5	Working with volunteers or community groups from a range of backgrounds		X
6	Implementation of Safeguarding and wider Health & Safety legislation	X	

3	Skills and competences	Essential	Desirable
1	Good IT skills, including use of Office 365 & social media	X	
2	Able to communicate with a wide range of audiences	X	
3	Excellent administrative and organisational skills	X	
4	Understanding the needs of schools and teachers	X	
5	Ability to manage workload effectively and prioritise to demanding timelines	X	

4	Personal attributes	Essential	Desirable
1	Effortless in creating positive, professional relationships with a wide range of people	X	
2	Ability to communicate with the media		X
3	Highly resourceful and creative, with a proven ability to solve problems	X	
4	Ambitious, self-motivated and target driven and able to work on own initiative	X	
5	Genuine enthusiasm and passionate about educating people about the winterbournes in Wessex	X	



Miscellaneous

The post will involve travelling throughout the Watercress & Winterbournes project area (Central and Northern-Hampshire), therefore a full UK driving licence and use of own vehicle is essential. Mileage expenses will be paid at 45p per mile as set out in HMRC's Approved Mileage Allowance Payment. Occasional evening and weekend work may be required. We will also require the successful applicant to undergo a DBS check and provide satisfactory references.