

Job Description



Title:	River Educator Isle of Wight (Variable hours contract)
Salary:	£12.91 per hour (£11.46 per hour plus 12.7% lieu of holiday)
Contract:	Permanent (6 months probationary period)
Hours:	Variable hours. Higher demand March - October
Location:	Mostly remote/home-based working with occasional day visits (2-3 a year) to Head Office, Salisbury.
Responsible to:	Education Officer

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 part of the Rivers Trust movement; the umbrella organisation helping to protect and enhance most of the UK's rivers. The Trust acknowledges that education and engaging with a wide and diverse audience is essential to sustain long-term interest in our local chalk streams and empower local communities to take ownership of these precious rivers. To deliver on this ambition, the Trust offers an education programme to all areas of Wessex and is delighted to now be in a position to offer river education sessions on the Isle of Wight.

Wessex RT is seeking to recruit a Variable Hours River Educator, based on the Isle of Wight, to mainly support the Our River, Our Water project, in partnership with Rivers Trusts South East and Southern Water.

Main objective

The main purpose of the role is to increase the knowledge of primary aged children of the importance of river conservation and empower them to take action in conserving water in their schools and homes.

Duties and responsibilities

1	Education
1	Develop (with the support of the Trust's existing education staff) the Trust's Our River, Our Water programme on the Isle of Wight
2	Source potential education sites on the island, that would be suitable for education sessions.
3	Promote the Our River, Our Water project to primary schools and uniformed groups on the island and liaise with teachers and group leaders, making bookings and carrying out site and pre-visits.
4	Deliver curriculum linked assemblies and riverbank sessions to schools, offering a classroom alternative if a suitable river site cannot be found.
5	Maintain high standards of safety and welfare for learners, education volunteers, teachers, and the local community.
6	Maintain and supervise Education Volunteers assisting with delivery.

2	Community Engagement	
1	Occasionally attend public events to educate the public about their local river.	
2	Occasionally work with other Trust Staff to deliver practical conservation tasks in communities, such as river clean-ups and invasive non-native species control.	

3	Contributing to the work of the Wessex RT	
1	Contribute to delivering the Trust's objectives, as required.	
2	Undertake other duties that may be appropriate to the position from time to time e.g., communications.	

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 school's system and the National Curriculum	X	
3	Knowledge of river ecosystems: ecology & species	X	
4	Aware of environmental issues impacting chalk streams and rivers in general.		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	At least two years' 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		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	Experience of working according to Safeguarding and wider Health & Safety policies / 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	Adept at 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 chalk streams in the Wessex region	X	

Miscellaneous

The post will involve travelling across the Isle of Wight and transporting equipment necessary for project delivery, therefore a full UK driving licence and access to own car is essential. Mileage expenses will be paid at 45p per mile as set out in HMRC's Approved Mileage Allowance Payment. Some evening and weekend work may be required. Occasional travel to the Wessex RT Head Office in Salisbury will also be required (2-3 times a year) and expenses for this will be re-imbursed.

We will also require the successful applicant to undergo an enhanced DBS check and provide satisfactory references.