

SURREY  
*wildlife*  
TRUST



# Becoming a Leader in Outdoor Learning

Course Information 2020/21

# Why Outdoor Learning?

Equip yourself with the skills and confidence to help your colleagues and your school take learning outside.

Mounting evidence shows the benefits of moving lessons outside and getting to know your 'outdoor classroom'. From higher academic achievement to improved social skills, enhanced concentration to happier teachers, research shows that outdoor learning is good for us.

The Leader in Outdoor Learning (level 2) course is accredited with Open College Network West Midlands and will guide you through the why and the how of implementing outdoor learning throughout your curriculum. Full of practical ideas and led by experienced outdoor educators, the 3-day course and the accompanying workbook of evidence that you will complete should leave you feeling inspired and prepared to make the most of your school grounds and take lessons outside.

The 1½ day Introduction to Facilitating Outdoor Learning (level 1) course, also accredited with Open College Network West Midlands, includes activity ideas, Q&A opportunities, and some simple written recordings of learning which should help to kick start your outdoor learning journey.



## **Why train with Surrey Wildlife Trust?**

Since 1978 the Trust has provided outdoor learning for hundreds of schools each year. As requirements have changed through time we have consistently tailored curriculum-linked sessions and delivered them on our beautiful woodland reserves and in school grounds across the county. Our team of teacher trainers have decades of experience between them from early years to A-level, meaning that we can offer you a breadth of expertise and support as you establish your own outdoor learning program.

The Leader in Outdoor Learning course is one-of-a-kind, carefully designed to build your knowledge and your confidence so that you are able to deliver excellent outdoor learning in your setting. Studying alongside other educators with similar interests and passions is an inspiring process, and often our students stay in contact long after the course is completed, sharing achievements and supporting one another in their respective outdoor learning ventures. Everyone comes to the course with their own strengths and ideas and the Surrey Wildlife Trust trainers are skilled at creating a community of learning, allowing each person's presence to enhance the experience of all.

In addition to our Outdoor Learning Teacher Training courses, we also run Forest Schools training and a comprehensive CPD programme which includes First Aid, food hygiene, wildlife gardening, outdoor storytelling, willow weaving and more.



## **Why do we care about Outdoor Learning?**

We work tirelessly to improve the habitats and the lives of the wildlife in Surrey. Central to our charity's mission is strengthening the web of connection between the people and the wildlife that call Surrey home. We recognise the vital importance of developing an affinity with the natural world during childhood; along with its many academic and developmental benefits, outdoor learning offers a chance for children to experience nature throughout the seasons and to interact regularly with the natural world in their school grounds and beyond.

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'I particularly enjoyed the practical workshops. Some great ideas thinking outside the box. I feel I can take all of these back to school and use them.'

# Meet the team



## **Sue Edwards**

Sue feels privileged to have been able to share people's joy at discovering nature with Surrey Wildlife Trust since 2009. A qualified teacher, she has also worked with adults, children and nature in an ancient royal hunting forest, on the coasts and heaths of Dorset, and wooded farmland of Essex, as well as school grounds of all shapes and sizes. She is the Outdoor Learning Manager and a skilled trainer in both Forest Schools and Outdoor Learning.



## **Neil Jameson**

Neil has had a lifelong passion for the environment, which led to him getting involved with the grounds of the schools and nurseries he taught at and eventually brought him to the charity 'Learning Through Landscapes'. He joined them as a School Grounds Advisor, supporting hundreds of schools and early years settings to bring their outdoor projects to life, before moving on to independent consultancy. Since 2013 Neil has been with Surrey Wildlife Trust, coordinating and delivering training in Outdoor Learning and Forest Schools.



## **Lucy Cahill**

Lucy's wildlife career began in South Africa, where she worked as a field guide and conservation project coordinator. When she returned to England she spent many years developing and running environmental education sessions for school groups of all ages and abilities before a brief sidestep into the world of horticultural therapy. Back in the woods with Surrey Wildlife Trust since 2019, Lucy delivers Forest School and Outdoor Learning training.



## **Victoria Pinder**

Victoria has worked in the education sector in both nursery and primary school settings. Since joining SWT in 2016 as the guru of all things administrative, she has gained her Level 2 Award for Forest School Assistants. Victoria co-ordinates the Surrey Wildlife Gardening Award each year, arranges the CPD Outdoor First Aid courses and is the main point of contact for the Outdoor Learning Team.

# Courses



## Introduction to Facilitating Outdoor Learning (Level 1)

This course is accredited by Open College Network and is designed to introduce attendees to the world of outdoor learning.

### Course Description

1½ day course introducing the following concepts:

- Benefits of outdoor learning
- Opportunities for outdoor learning
- Assessing risk outdoors
- Engaging children with local wildlife

### Course Requirements

- Participants should be over 18 years old and have some experience of working with young people, for example teachers, teaching assistants, or other educators
- Attend the one day course and the 2 hour meet-up (these take place approx. one month apart)
- Submit some written recordings of learning
- Course commitment approximately 20 hours

**Price** £90

It is possible for the Introduction to Facilitating Outdoor Learning (level 1) to be delivered as INSET training. Attendees are required to be present at the 1 day INSET training day and to submit some written recordings of learning within 2 weeks of the date of training to receive the accreditation.



## Leader in Outdoor Learning (Level 2)

This course is accredited by Open College Network and is designed to enable primary school staff and other educators to deliver curriculum-linked activities outdoors.

### Course Description

3 days covering the following units:

- Benefits of Outdoor Learning
- Engaging children with local wildlife
- Health and Safety in the natural environment
- Learning in the natural environment
- Using and improving the school grounds and the natural environment

During the course you will gain:

- Experience of outdoor activity ideas for core and foundation subjects
- Knowledge of research demonstrating the benefits of outdoor learning
- Skills to maximise outdoor play for learning in break times
- Ability to improve your school grounds for learning
- Awareness of wider schemes and programmes to support you
- Skills for managing classes outdoors
- Awareness of good health and safety practice and appropriate risk taking
- Ideas for activities to support children's interest in local wildlife

### Course Requirements

- Participants should be over 19 years old and have some experience of delivering a curriculum to young people, for example teachers, teaching assistants, or other educators
- All participants must be DBS checked
- Attend the three days of theory and practice
- Be able to plan and deliver at least three outdoor learning sessions
- Complete a workbook of evidence
- Course commitment approximately 70 hours
- Option to attend a monthly mentoring session (these are not compulsory but highly recommended)

### Delivery

The three days is roughly an even mixture of theory and practical outdoor sessions. On the second day the group will visit a local school to learn more about how school grounds can be used and improved.

A bank of resources and ideas are held online for participants. Participants are required to document and deliver three outdoor sessions with their school and to complete a workbook of evidence for submission.

The course normally takes participants six months to complete although some have handed all the coursework in after a few months. It can take several months for the work to be marked and for the exam board to validate it and send certificates out.

**Price** £360 (£100 deposit required)



## Leader in Outdoor Play (Level 2)

**Keep in touch as we hope to launch this new course in 2022.**

Not sure what to expect? Why not attend one of our taster mornings. See page ?? for details



## Staff INSET Training

Our INSET Training provides an opportunity to inspire, challenge and develop your staff's confidence in outdoor learning and/or play within your school or nursery setting. Our staff INSET training includes an introduction to the benefits of outdoor learning and practical activities within your school setting.

### Popular curriculum based topics include:

Literacy in the Outdoor Classroom  
Numeracy in the Outdoor Classroom  
Developing your grounds for Learning  
An introduction to a Forest School Programme

The training is suitable for all members of staff, including Head Teachers, Class Teachers, Teaching Assistants, SENCOs, LSAs, EYFS, KS1 & KS2, dinner and break staff. We can focus on Early Years or Primary level.

We will tailor our INSET training to suit your specific requirements at your site. Whether it's pond dipping, playground games or a forest school taster, we will provide all the equipment and resources. Please contact us to discuss our range of skills and expertise to get exactly what you want from your INSET day.

**Price** (up to max 20 staff members)

FULL DAY £725

HALF DAY £425

Please contact us for prices if you wish to run an INSET for 20+ staff members



## Taster sessions and further training events

We provide half or full day taster sessions for individuals and Staff INSET training for schools. For further information please contact [outreach@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreywt.org.uk)

## Bookings and Admin:

**Victoria Pinder**

Direct Tel: 01483 663300

Email: [outreach@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreywt.org.uk)

website: [surreywildlifetrust.org](http://surreywildlifetrust.org)



# FAQs

## What will I need for the course?

You will need a full set of outdoor waterproof clothing and a pair of suitable boots, as parts of the course will be spent outside whatever the weather. A camera/phone is advisable to take pictures for your future inspiration.

To complete your workbook of evidence you will need to plan and deliver 3 outdoor learning sessions in your setting.

You will be sent full joining instructions when you have booked a place.

## How do I book a place?

Please complete the booking form included in this guide and return to us with a deposit to secure your place on a course. We will then invoice you for the remaining balance a month before the course starts. Payment must be made before the start of the course. See our booking conditions included in this guide.

## What are the times?

The course runs over 3 days, usually from 9.30am until 4.30pm.

## Can you come to us?

SWT can offer tailored Outdoor Learning courses at an individual setting or school if there are sufficient numbers of staff (six plus) wanting to attend. This is a great training opportunity as it enables you to have a course delivered that is specifically tailored to your site and the children or young people you work with. For further information and the cost contact [outreach@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreywt.org.uk).



## Adult courses booking conditions

### Safety and first aid

All training activities run by the Surrey Wildlife Trust are run with safety as a priority, and all our tutors are First Aid trained. There will be safety instructions where necessary as part of the session, which we expect all participants to follow. Please inform the bookings administrator of any dietary requirements or medication taken. Please bring any medication needed and make the course leader aware of where it is.

## Clothing and Equipment

All participants should be adequately prepared for the outdoors. Clothing should be suitable for getting muddy/torn.

Winter: warm clothes and waterproofs.

Summer: hats, suncream and plenty of water should be brought; waterproofs if it looks like it may rain.

We recommend long trousers and long sleeved tops, even in the summer, to help prevent bites, scratches and ticks. Insect repellent may be applied if you wish.

Footwear should be sturdy trainers or boots to reduce the likelihood of slips, trips and falls.

## Inclement weather

Our training will run unless the weather is so bad it would be dangerous to do so (e.g. high winds). The sites we use have access to a building if necessary and have toilets available.

## Refreshments

Where training lasts all day, please bring a packed lunch and a drink. Refreshments (tea and coffee etc.) are provided.

## Refunds

Should it ever become necessary for the Outdoor Learning team to cancel a booking owing to circumstances outside the control of the Outdoor Learning Manager, for example because of severe weather, you will receive a full refund.

If you cancel more than 14 days before the training then you will receive a full refund.

If you cancel less than 14 days before the training you will be offered an alternative date if possible, but you will not receive a refund.

## Variation of conditions

The Outdoor Learning team reserves the right to vary its booking conditions from time to time as necessary. Bookings will be subject to those conditions prevailing at the time of the issue of the booking form.

# SWT Outdoor Learning Booking Form

Please complete the following information and email this booking form to [outreach@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreywt.org.uk)  
A £100 deposit is required to confirm your place, payment details can be found below.

<b>Student Name</b>	
<b>School/Organisation (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Course training dates and location</b>	
<b>Invoice address &amp; accounts email</b>	Accounts email address
<b>Student contact number</b>	Work Mobile
<b>Student email address</b>	
<b>Signature of student &amp; date</b>	I have read the SWT course requirements and understand what is required to complete the training. SIGNATURE ..... DATE ..... Electronic signatures accepted
<b>Are you a member of Surrey Wildlife Trust?</b> YES* / NO* *please delete	
<b>Staying in touch</b> I would like to be contacted by Surrey Wildlife Trust about conservation, fundraising, volunteering, news and other activities by:	
<b>Post</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Telephone</b> We never sell or share your details with other organisations.	
<b>Course Fee</b> Leader in Outdoor Learning : £360 Deposit required : £100  (deposit non-refundable if cancellation is made less than 14 days before the course starts) A £100 deposit is required with this booking form to confirm a place on a course We cannot guarantee a place until a deposit has been received You will be invoiced for the final balance a month before the start of the course If booking 14 days before the start of the course, payment in full is required	
<b>Payment Details</b>  Surrey Wildlife Trust BACS: Bank of Scotland 80-11-00 Account no. 06053499  Please use the student name as your reference	
<b>Your Privacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We will keep your data on our secure database and will use it to send you emails about conservation, events and other ways to get involved with local wildlife.</li><li>You can opt out of any communications at any time.</li><li>We will never share your data with other organisations.</li><li>For further information on how we use your data, please refer to our privacy policy.</li></ul>	

# Outdoor Learning courses booking conditions

## **Safety and first aid**

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## **Clothing and Equipment**

All participants should be adequately prepared for the outdoors. Clothing should be suitable for getting muddy/torn.

Winter: warm clothes and waterproofs.

Summer: hats, sun cream and plenty of water should be brought; waterproofs if it looks like it may rain.

We recommend long trousers and long sleeved tops, even in the summer, to help prevent bites, scratches and ticks. Insect repellent may be applied if wished.

Footwear should be sturdy trainers or boots to reduce the likelihood of slips, trips and falls.

## **Inclement weather**

Our training will run unless the weather is so bad it would be dangerous to do so. Some of the sites we use have access to a building if necessary and have toilets available.

## **Refreshments**

The Forest School training lasts all day, so please bring a packed lunch and a drink, although it may well be that we will cook various treats over a campfire.

## **Refunds**

Should it ever become necessary for the Outdoor Learning team to cancel a booking owing to circumstances outside the control of the Outdoor Learning Manager, for example because of severe weather, you will receive a full refund.

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