

## Railway Land Wildlife Trust

### Job Description: Junior Rangers Leader



**Location:** Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes BN7 2FG

**Responsible to:** Head of Learning

**Hours:** 9am – 1pm approx. Session times 10-12.30pm on agreed Saturdays.

**Pay:** £110 per morning worked, depending on experience. Freelance

**We are looking for applicants who can commit to a rota of roughly alternate Saturdays or more, to be agreed with Head of Learning**

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Background to Railway Land Wildlife Trust**

The Railway Land Wildlife Trust (RLWT) was born in 1988 by a community determined to protect the natural space that had evolved from a former railway marshalling yard. In the 1996 the Railway Land was designated a Local Nature Reserve, and during the noughties the charity successfully funded and then built a cutting edge eco building, the Linklater Pavilion, as a focus for community learning and engagement.

More recently RLWT has expanded with a strong team of ecologists, lifelong learning and community engagement practitioners. Our work includes practical conservation and habitat creation, youth engagement, traditional crafting, wildlife discovery, wellbeing in nature walks, school visits, holiday clubs and much more. We aspire to be an exemplar of bold, imaginative and inspirational approaches, disruptive enough to bring about a culture shift in our relationship with nature and how we link human and natural resilience.

We have a small, friendly staff team and a large cohort of volunteers who support all aspects of our work.

For more information about our work, please visit our website [www.railwaylandproject.org](http://www.railwaylandproject.org)

#### **Background to the Junior Rangers**

Our new Junior Rangers scheme runs a nature based group for young people of approximately 10-14 years old (in Year groups 6, 7 and 8). The focus will be to help look after the nature reserve although participants will also have opportunities to take part in activities like green woodwork, ecological surveying, pond dipping, fire lighting, exploring, games and more.

We are keen for this to be fun and engaging, and for activities to reflect the interests of participants. Our aim is to provide a social space for the young people to connect, as well as a great opportunity for them to learn more about and enjoy time in nature.

Some of the reasoning behind the Junior Rangers is to ease the transition between primary and secondary school, provide opportunities for participants to build friendships with those in different schools, and to offer activities specific for this age group who often fall between children's and young people's groups. Participants can continue in our thriving [NatureLinks](#) program when they reach Year 9.

Taster sessions: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 10-12.30pm

The club runs every Saturday from 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024 10 – 12.30pm

Sessions will run at the Railway Land Nature Reserve, Lewes, with occasional visits to other local sites. There will always be a minimum of two leaders delivering sessions.

We are able to provide this club FREE thanks to National Lottery's Reaching Communities funding.

### **Main Areas of Responsibility**

#### **Leader:**

To work with the Head of Learning and other colleagues to plan activities for the scheme.

To hold participants' data appropriately, liaise with parents as necessary, and report areas of concern to Head of Learning

To manage and maintain resources necessary for the sessions and to liaise with the Head of Learning any needs for resources, tools and equipment.

To represent the Railway Land Wildlife Trust positively and professionally at all times

In collaboration with the Junior Rangers Assistant, to deliver and evaluate a range of fun outdoor and land care activities.

To follow all health and safety protocols, and to report any health and safety concerns to Head of Learning or CEO as soon as practical

### **Person Specification**

#### **Qualifications**

Environmental conservation qualification or similar OR an equivalent level of experience

Forest school, play worker qualification or similar OR equivalent level of experience

Outdoor First Aid (2 day) or similar, or willing to arrange and undertake prior to start of work

Enhanced DBS or willingness for us to apply on your behalf prior to commencement of work

## **Experience**

Delivering engaging, fun and relatable land care and /or outdoor activities with children or young people, with a focus on quality connection with the natural world

The proven ability to hold group cohesion, deliver information engagingly and clearly, and set and maintain boundaries in a natural environment

Using simple hand tools to deliver land care and/or bushcraft activities with children or young people, following best practice safety guidelines

Identifying appropriate activities for particular ages and needs of a wide mix of children

Holding the wellbeing of participants at all times as a core aspect of nature connection

Putting H&S into practice in the outdoor environment to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and participants

## **Knowledge**

Knowledge of local species and natural habitats including wetlands, woodland, and meadow and basic management of these habitats

Knowledge of a wide range of nature based outdoor activities that aid exploration and help inform about the natural world

Knowledge of safeguarding principles and procedures

## **Skills and Attributes**

Positive 'can –do' attitude

Confidence to adapt plans at short notice in response to group dynamic or weather

Willingness to undertake relevant training, including safeguarding training

Team player with initiative

Confidence in basic IT communications including email, MS Word

**Please contact Milly Hawkins with any queries: [education@railwaylandproject.org](mailto:education@railwaylandproject.org)**

**Closing date for applications: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024, midnight**

**Date for interview: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July**