



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for contacting the Mendip Hills AONB Unit about the Young Ranger Scheme. Following very successful schemes run over 12 years, the Mendip Hills AONB is pleased to be able to offer the programme for a thirteenth intake. We are inviting young people aged 11 – 13 (current years 7 or 8) to participate in the new scheme that commences in September 2019.

The scheme is offered as part of a European initiative to give young people the opportunity to find out about a Protected Landscape, learning about conservation techniques in a hands-on practical way. The Young Rangers meet one Saturday per month (except August and December) and have an overnight camp in the final year. They will get a taste for what it's like to look after one of Britain's most special places, designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Young Rangers will gain qualifications such as First Aid, Navigation and the John Muir Conservation Award, along with learning about the special qualities of the Mendip Hills, taking part in outdoor adventure activities and gaining life skills.

The scheme is offered to a maximum of 15 young people, who usually come from local middle and secondary schools and communities close to the AONB. We are keen to encourage pupils who stand to benefit most from the practical environmentally themed programme, but they would need a parent or guardian who would be able to provide transport to and from the Charterhouse Centre on the Mendips for the duration of the scheme.

The cost of the scheme is subsidised by the Mendip Hills AONB Partnership which enables us to offer places on the scheme at a charge of £120 for the two years. This includes all activities, equipment, Young Ranger uniform and the camp.

### **Recruitment Timetable**

**Application Deadline: 14/6/19**

Once you have read this letter, please discuss with your child whether they would like to be considered for the programme. If they would, they need to complete the application form, which must be returned, along with the signed consent below (indicating that you are happy for them to be considered for the scheme), **no later than 4:00pm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.**

**Confirmation by: 21/6/19**

The successful applicants will be informed by **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**.

**Open Evening: 27/6/19**

Successful applicants and their families/carers are then invited to attend an open evening to ask questions and find out more on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June at Charterhouse Centre, Blagdon BS40 7XR**.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Mendip Hills AONB Unit; in addition, you can also find further additional details about the scheme on the Volunteering page of our website:

[www.mendiphillsaonb.org.uk/caring-about-the-aonb/volunteering/](http://www.mendiphillsaonb.org.uk/caring-about-the-aonb/volunteering/)



# APPLICATION FORM

## Mendip Hills AONB Young Ranger's Programme 2019 – 21

Please sign and return **both parts** of the application form by no later than **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June** by post to:

Young Rangers, Mendip Hills AONB, Charterhouse Centre, Blagdon, BS40 7XR. Or you can scan a copy of the signed application and email to **mendip@mendiphillsaonb.org.uk**

### PART 1 to be completed by the parent/guardian:

Young Ranger applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Female / Male (delete as appropriate)

School Attending:

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Parent / Guardian Consent:

I confirm that I have read the above details concerning the Mendip Hills AONB Young Ranger's scheme and consent for my child \_\_\_\_\_ to be put forward for the two-year programme.

I understand this means a regular commitment to participate in a monthly Saturday programme from September 2019 - July 2021 (the scheme does not run in August or December).

I agree that if they are successful in gaining a place, there is a one-off £120 fee payable and that I am responsible for their transport to and from the monthly meetings.

**Signed (Parent/Guardian)** .....

**Name** ..... **Date** .....

**Telephone no**..... **Mobile no** .....

**Email** .....

Please let us know if you cannot attend the open evening on Thursday 27th June so if necessary we can arrange another date and time with you.

.....

.....

**PART 2 to be completed by the potential next Young Ranger!**

**So, you'd like to be a Mendip Hills Young Ranger? Great!**

We want to offer places to young people who are enthusiastic about the countryside and are up for a challenge! So, to apply to be on the scheme, there's a small activity we want to you complete...

What we want you to do is think of 5 activities you'd include in the Young Ranger scheme if you were organising the programme. What would you offer that would give young people like you the chance to learn more about the special qualities of the Mendip Hills in a fun 'hands-on' way? When you've got your ideas together, write them down in the space below.

Remember, we might not be able to offer a place to everyone, so make sure you come up with some really great ideas so you stand out from everyone else! **BE CREATIVE!** You could also include pictures, art, video, anything to show how much you love the Mendip Hills.

-----

If I were organising the Mendip Hills AONB Young Ranger programme, the activities I'd include would be:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

In less than 50 words please tell us why you would like to become a Mendip Hills Young Ranger

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please tell us how being a Young Ranger would help you? Do you want a job in conservation, do you want to build your confidence. Really think about how this scheme will help you in the future.

---

---

---

---

---

Are you involved with any other groups, clubs or organisations? Yes / No (Please list any below)

---

---

---