

We are currently looking for **young volunteers (age 14-17)** to join our learning team at Westonbirt Arboretum. The description of the young volunteer role is below. If you think this might be of interest to you, please complete the 'expression of interest' at the following link: public.forestryengland.uk/EOI/

When you are asked on the form for the 'Forest Name', please type Westonbirt. One of our team will then be in touch. If you have any other questions, you can contact us via email at volunteer.westonbirt@forestryengland.uk

Volunteer Role Description

Young volunteers - supporting family events

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is cared for by Forestry England, the government agency responsible for managing England's public forest estate. As well as ensuring Westonbirt's long-term future, its mission is to connect people with trees to improve the quality of life. Volunteering plays a fundamental part supporting this mission, providing essential help in maintaining the arboretum and making visitors feel welcome.

The Learning Team engages with visitors of all ages, delivering informal hands-on learning activities during family events and community visits as well as formal learning experiences with schools and colleges. Our team of 'young volunteers' sit alongside this enthusiastic team of learning staff and volunteers, gaining lots of valuable experience and skills by supporting our family events.

When

Family events usually take place during most school holidays and young volunteers are asked to sign-up for at least six sessions for our afternoon shift of 12:30pm - 4pm

What's involved?

- Engaging with families taking part in our family events programme.
- Helping children discover more about trees and wildlife and help them to create tree crafts.
- Being part of a team, planning and developing ideas for family events, making craft examples or researching/writing activities.

We'd like you to be

- Aged between 14 and 18 years old.
- Enthusiastic and keen to engage with children/families.
- Able to communicate with all kinds of visitors, whilst being reliable, positive and patient or willing to actively develop these skills.
- Have an interest in trees, natural history and a willingness to learn.

We will

Provide role training covering induction, engaging with the public and the learning family events programme for the year ahead.

Provide ongoing support from learning staff and experienced learning volunteers.

Provide all materials needed.

Ensure you are always with another volunteer/member of staff who has had an enhanced DBS check.

Pay a contribution to the cost of volunteering travel.