

Meet the team!

We are currently looking for volunteers to join our learning team at Westonbirt Arboretum. The description of the volunteer role is below and we are also holding a series of 'meet the team' sessions towards the end of May. We would like to invite you to come and meet the team, staff, and volunteers, whilst they are delivering one of the family events you would likely be involved in. Hopefully this will equip you with the information you need to make an informed decision as to whether it is the right volunteering opportunity for you.

The 'meet us' sessions run from 1pm-3pm every day on the dates in the registration form, you can come at any time and you can expect to be with us for about 30 minutes.

After the 'meet the team' session we will send you home with details on how to apply and if you are successful in your application we will arrange induction dates and DBS applications.

To come and meet the team please complete the registration details at the following link, there are limited places, and we need to know who is coming. We will contact you with arrival details closer to the time.

<https://forms.office.com/e/t9winfs5XA>

Volunteer Role Description

Learning Volunteer - Overview

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is cared for by Forestry England. 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 as well as formal learning experiences with schools and colleges.

When

A minimum of 10 shifts over the year with at least 6 of these at the weekend or school holidays.

What's Involved

- Family events - engaging with families, helping them to explore and discover more about trees, the arboretum and the natural world.
- Morning, afternoon and all-day shift options to suit your availability

- Work mornings - One a month, usually on a Friday, miscellaneous tasks to prepare for events, school programmes, maintenance and sharing ideas

Another opportunity that may become available at a later date

- School visits - supporting the learning officer by helping all children to take part in the activities

We'd like you to be...

- Welcoming to all participants, of all ages, learning styles and needs
- Comfortable to approach visitors to invite them to take part
- Experienced in engaging and talking with children

We will...

- Provide training sessions covering induction, learning theory, engaging with the public, and the learning programme for the year ahead.
- Partner you with a current volunteer to support you in your role.
- Provide all materials needed.
- Ensure you are with another volunteer when out in the arboretum.
- Make you aware there may be periods of standing and that the activity may take place away from central facilities for up to 1.5 hours.
- Pay a contribution to the cost of volunteering travel.
- Help you to complete the required Disclosure and Barring System checks (an enhanced DBS is required for this role).