



New to Nature Placement

Assistant Parks Activator

CLOSING DATE: 12.00pm on Friday 17th February 2023

The Parks Foundation | Charity Registration number 1159939

The Cricket Pavilion, Winton Recreation Ground,
Bournemouth, BH9 1BX

01202 143724 | info@parksfoundation.org.uk

www.parksfoundation.org.uk



**THE PARKS
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ABOUT NEW TO NATURE

Thank you for your interest in this New to Nature placement.

New to Nature is an exciting programme of paid work placements in nature-focused roles. This is one of 70 roles that will be created across the UK to encourage young and diverse talent into the Natural Environment sector.

We're particularly interested in receiving applications from young people (aged 18-25) who are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, who are living with a disability or are from low-income households.

You'll get paid a good wage from a placement that helps the environment, learn loads of skills to boost your CV and get access to a Youth Employment Coach to help you plan your future career. There'll also be opportunities to learn about potential careers in the natural environment, and (should you wish to) connect with the other young people working in New to Nature roles across the country.

This is a unique opportunity to try something new, and to take a first step on a career path where you can make a real difference. The natural environment needs you!

We hope you will join us on this exciting journey!



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ABOUT THE PARKS FOUNDATION

We are a small but active charity which is focussed on creating inspirational urban parks for people and wildlife throughout Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP). Through our fundraising, we transform parks into biodiverse wildlife havens, improve people's health & wellbeing, reconnect them with nature, and bring diverse communities together.

We work closely with local residents to achieve our charitable objects, to:

- enhance some of the 450+ parks in BCP
- educate the public (including visitors and the c.400,000 residents), especially around conservation, ecology and heritage
- provide recreational facilities which improve social welfare.

We focus our efforts in our most deprived and/or densely populated communities and those that are ecologically poorest. Our aim is to make these local parks become the backdrop to civic life and help to support our area's reputation as a great place to live, work and play.

Our activities include:

- Delivering weekly eco-therapy activities, located within our most deprived wards and focussing on improving health and mental wellbeing. We directly engage people struggling with their mental health and enable them to engage in a range of inclusive activities and volunteering opportunities
- Improving neighbourhood parks for wildlife and people by making biodiversity improvements and delivering a programme of nature-based engagement activities
- Providing a vibrant, welcoming community café which increases the amount of time residents spend in nature and offers activities and volunteering opportunities
- Fundraising for items such as play equipment, drinking fountains and park improvements to enhance greenspaces.

Find out more about us www.parksfoundation.org.uk

Benefits of working with us:

- ✓ Flexible working
- ✓ Holiday Entitlement – 26 days annual leave plus bank holidays
- ✓ Pension – 3% employer contribution
- ✓ Travel Schemes – complimentary Beryl Bike token scheme
- ✓ Training and support provided, on the placement and formal training
- ✓ Disability Confident employer
- ✓ Regular social activities with the team



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RECRUITMENT PROCESS

APPLICATION

You can apply for this placement via the following link:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NTNPlacementApplication22

This is hosted by Groundwork UK who will check the suitability of applicants, before passing the application on to the placement organisation, who will shortlist applicants to an informal interview process.

Please ensure you carefully select the correct role from the drop-down list, to ensure your details are passed to the correct placement organisation.

If you have any questions about the application form, contact Groundwork UK at:

newtonature@groundwork.org.uk

INTERVIEWS

We will contact you to let you know whether you have been shortlisted for interview.

We expect to conduct interviews in person **the week beginning 6th or 13th March 2023.**

If you have any questions about the role or interview process please contact us at: 01202 143724 or info@parksfoundation.org.uk



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PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION

Placement title:	Assistant Parks Activator
Organisation:	The Parks Foundation
Contract type:	12 Months, Fixed term
Number of hours per week:	35 hours per week. Will consider part time role as a reasonable adjustment.
Working pattern:	Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm with regular weekend and occasional evening work
Hourly rate of pay	£10.90
Responsible to:	Project Manager
Location:	The Cricket Pavilion, Winton Recreation Ground, Bournemouth, BH9 1BX; as well as park locations across Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch.
Accessible by public transport:	Yes – regular bus service to office (e.g. M1) as well as transport via our team van or Beryl Bike token scheme
Anticipated Start Date:	Monday 17 th April 2023

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Our Assistant Parks Activator will be working across up-to 15 urban community parks as part of our Green Heart Parks project which aims to reconnect residents with the nature on their doorstep. The project will transform some of our area's green deserts into wildlife-rich sites and create habitat and species resilience.

The role will help to deliver a programme of activities to increase the local communities' engagement with their park, educating them about the environment. This will involve:

1. Planning and preparing events to support our Parks Activators
2. Promoting events alongside our Project & Communications Officer
3. Being on-site during events to help deliver activities, prepare equipment and talking to event participants
4. Adhering to all health & safety and risk assessment requirements
5. Data entry and admin

You will also help to deliver a programme of park improvements which bring about



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biodiversity improvements. This will involve practical conservation and horticultural work, under the instruction of our Project Manager, while adhering to health & safety and risk assessment requirements.

You will also undertake surveys, monitoring questionnaires and support citizen science events to collect data on the nature and wildlife in the parks.

During the placement you will:

- Learn how to plan nature-based activities, involving risk assessments, health & safety, promotion, workshop preparation etc.
- Learn how to deliver nature-based activities, for example how to manage the event logistics on the day, make attendees feel welcome, consider the best way of teaching people new skills.
- Have first aid at work training.
- Gain experience in other areas of our charity's work to see if this may be a career interest to you; e.g. managing a Visitor Centre, running an ecotherapy project, fundraising or marketing.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- ✓ An interest in the outdoors, parks, countryside, horticulture or conservation
- ✓ Be confident speaking to people you don't know
- ✓ Be reliable, self-motivated and show initiative while working
- ✓ A willingness to learn new skills
- ✓ Basic IT skills, e.g. be able to use email and spreadsheets – training can be provided if required
- ✓ You will be required to wear a staff uniform

SUPPORT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

This placement is part of a national programme - New to Nature - funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This will include additional elements of training and personal development support provided by Groundwork UK and partners, as well as on the job training and support from The Parks Foundation.

Each young person will complete an in-depth induction programme with input from The Prince Trust, along with tailored advice and guidance from a Groundwork Youth Employment Coach at key points during the placement. This may include identifying skills and training opportunities or help with your CV and job search skills.

The Parks Foundation will also be providing support for participants, including: First Aid at Work training and basic IT training from a member of the team (if required).



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All young people on the New to Nature programme, will be invited to participate in a learning Network. This will create opportunities to take part in different talks, workshops and discussions focused on the environment sector, hosted by Groundwork and our partners.



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