

Summer Camp 2024 Application Pack

Apply by 7th April 2024





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About Us

Action for Conservation's (AFC) mission is to bring the magic of nature into young people's lives, inspiring a youth movement committed to conservation and to the earth.

We're a small team working in North West England, South East England, South West England and South Wales. We're campaigners, marine and forest experts, ecologists, geographers and youth engagement specialists.

During the school year, we provide young people with knowledge, skills and resources to take environmental action in their schools and communities. Come the summer, we hit the great outdoors for epic adventures in the heart of the UK's National Parks, exploring nature with inspiring young people from across the country.

Follow us, click the icons below!









X (Twitter) & Instagram: @action4conserv
TikTok & Facebook: @actionforconservation

Our Policies

Available upon request:

- Child Safeguarding
- Child E-Safety
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Visits
- Transport
- Whistleblowing
- Data Protection
- Summer Camp Inclusion
 Statement
- Covid-19 Guidelines





Section 1 About Camp

Why Apply To Camp?

Action for Conservation believes that every young person has the power to help the planet. Camps are a chance to explore nature, learn about environmental and social justice, and discover how you can take action. Plus you'll make unforgettable memories and friendships that last a lifetime!

Are you looking for the ultimate summer escape? Do you want to discover amazing wildlife and immerse yourself in nature?

Then we want to meet you! Whether you've never explored the outdoors before or you're an expert on environmental issues - our camps are for you. Don't worry if you don't know absolutely everything about nature because that's what camp is for!

This is an **all-inclusive**, **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** for an incredible summer adventure. Join us!

Camp Activities

Our activities focus on connecting young people to the natural world whilst empowering and inspiring them to join the growing movement of young people taking action for nature and people around the world.

You'll go on **guided nature walks**, explore beaches and woodlands, participate in nature restoration activities, **play outdoor games**, learn about conservation careers, **stargaze** and much, much more!



Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- 12-16 years old at the time of camp
- Living in England or Wales
- Be available to attend one of the six camps listed on page 6

If your application is successful, we will allocate you to one of our camps listed on page 6. Our decision will be based on a number of factors including your proximity to our three priority regions. Young people living outside of our priority regions are still welcome to apply and if you are successful we will allocate you to a camp.

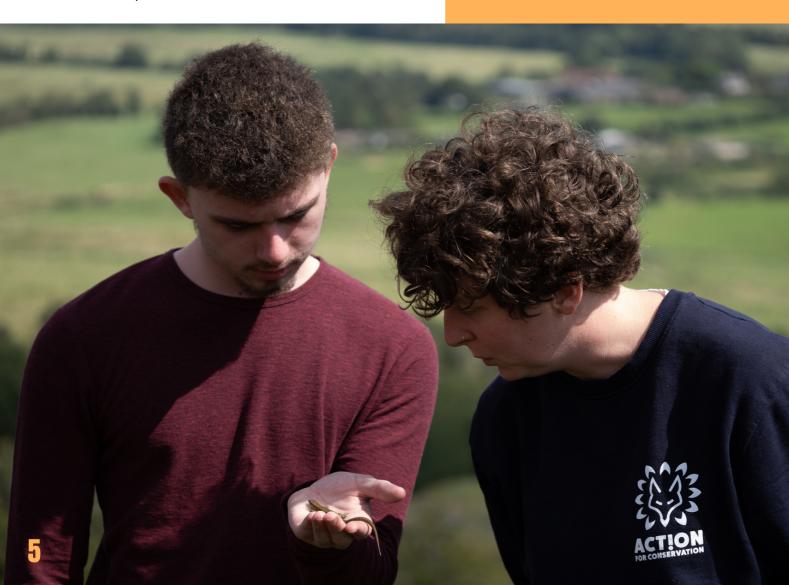
We are unable to accept applications from young people who have previously attended an AFC Summer Camp.

Not 12 years old yet?

If you won't be 12 in time for camps this summer, don't worry! You can apply next year.

Sign up to the Action for Conservation newsletter to receive a notification when the application window for our 2025 Summer Camps open.

Sign up to the newsletter here





Camp Dates & Locations

Our camps are located at bunkhouses set in the rural countryside within three of the UK's beautiful National Parks:

- South West: Stackpole, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
 - Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August 2024
 - o Monday 12th August to Friday 16th August 2024
- North West: Ashbourne, Peak District National Park
 - Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August 2024
 - Monday 12th August to Friday 16th August 2024
- South East: Eastbourne, South Downs National Park
 - Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August 2024
 - Sunday 11th August to Thursday 15th August 2024

Activities take place both at the site and in the surrounding areas.



Camp Details

GETTING TO & FROM CAMP

Our camp leaders will travel with campers to and from camp from the following pick-up/drop-off locations:

- North West: Manchester and one additional pick-up location dependent on where campers live.
- South West: Bristol & Newport
- South East: London & Eastbourne

Young people can also be dropped off at the site.

ACCOMMODATION

Each bunkhouse has a unique layout. Some consist of shared dormitories while others consist of a combination of twin rooms and private rooms. The details of your bunkhouse will be shared ahead of camp and if you feel the accommodation is unsuitable for you we will try and arrange a suitable alternative where possible. If you have any questions about the accommodation please get in touch with our team.

COSTS

The camp is all-inclusive, which means accommodation, food and activities are paid for. We will also pay for transportation to the site from the designated pick-up point and the return journey. Campers may bring a small amount of pocket money as there may be opportunities to buy snacks and souvenirs.

EQUIPMENT

If you are accepted onto camp, you will be sent an Information Pack with details on what to bring. If you do not own a piece of equipment (e.g. walking boots) please let our team know and we will do our best to source these items to avoid you purchasing new clothing.





Contact Our Team

If you have any questions about the camp or the camp application process please contact one of our regional Programme Managers:

North West

Emma Schofield 07946 064 533

South East

Omar Abu-Seer 07956 005 390

South West

Holly Chantrill-Cheyette 07940 950 728

Or email:

camps@actionforconservation.org

Camp Details

MOBILE PHONES AND LAPTOPS

While campers can bring their mobile phones to camp, we ask young people to keep them in their rooms during the day outside of free time. We collect all phones at night to ensure campers get an uninterrupted night's sleep. The use of sleep aids (e.g. audiobooks or podcasts) will be discussed with participants ahead of camp. We also ask that campers do not bring laptops, tablets, iPads or personal gaming devices (e.g. Nintendo Switch). Please note that the quality of signal on camp can be poor and intermittent (in particular at the Ashbourne site) and campers should not rely on being able to connect to the internet.

CONTACT WITH PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Staff members will carry mobile phones which campers will be able to use if they need to contact home. Parents/guardians will also be issued with staff contact numbers during the preparation stages of the camp.

CAMP LEADERS

Camps are run by the Action for Conservation team, who are present for the entirety of the camp, and other environmentalists from organisations who lead specific activities. We may also have a photographer and videographer with us to document the adventure.

SUPERVISION, SAFEGUARDING AND SECURITY

Safety and security are extremely important to us.

All staff and volunteers receive the appropriate training and background checks, adhering to our Child Safeguarding Policy. Campers will be supervised and all venues and activities are rigorously assessed to ensure the highest standards of safety.

Behaviour Expectations: Young People Code of Conduct

We want all campers to feel safe and happy before, during and after the camp, which is why we ask all campers to agree to follow the **AFC Young People Code of Conduct**, found below.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM YOU

- Participate in activities with enthusiasm and positivity and let us know if you ever need more support in the actions you are taking.
- Treat your peers, our staff, volunteers and members of the public with respect and kindness at all times, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or religious beliefs.
 We will not tolerate any incidents of bullying or exclusion.
- Act as a positive role model this includes using appropriate language and behaviour. Remember that young people from a range of ages take part in our activities and programmes, so please ensure your discussions are appropriate for everyone.
- Keep yourself and other young people safe during in-person activities by listening to the guidance given by the AFC team, behaving responsibly and speaking out if something isn't right.
- Keep yourself and other young people safe online by following
 the safety guidance shared by the AFC team and by not sharing
 any personal information like surnames, addresses, mobile
 numbers or photos of other young people online. Please ask the
 AFC team if you are unsure about whether a post is
 appropriate.
- Ensure that your relationships and communications with other young people in the AFC network remain professional in nature and are age-appropriate.
- Do not bring or use alcohol, cigarettes, vapes or illegal substances, or engage in other illegal activities such as theft or vandalism whilst taking part in activities. These activities should not be discussed in person or online.
- Report all incidents, inappropriate behaviour or risky situations to your parent/guardian and the AFC team.



Behaviour Expectations: Young People Code of Conduct

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

- Ensure that we and the young people on camp uphold the Code of Conduct.
- Provide young people and their parent(s) or guardian(s) with the information they need to keep safe during camp.
- Ensure that all young people feel respected and safe on camp, and challenge any behaviour that doesn't uphold this.
- Ensure that our activities are inclusive and accessible and make changes if we fall short.
- Be excellent role models and mentors for the young people we work with.
- Respond to all concerns and incidents and act in a timely manner.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CODE OF CONDUCT IS NOT FOLLOWED?

Minor or first-time incident. If a young person behaves in a way that doesn't follow our Code of Conduct, our staff or volunteers will remind them about it and ask them to change their behaviour. This gives them the chance to think and to plan how they could behave differently, with support from us.

Formal warning. If a young person continues not to follow the Code of Conduct after their first reminder, they will be given a formal warning. We will make a record of what happened and inform the young person's parent(s) or guardians(s) if it is appropriate. We will talk with the young person about what happened and agree on what support they need to improve their behaviour in the future. We might also decide that further steps should be taken, such as restricting them from taking part in some activities.

Final warning. If the support we have put in place isn't helping a young person to change their behaviour, we will give them a final warning. Again, this will be recorded and we will inform their parent(s) or guardians(s) as appropriate. If the young person's behaviour doesn't change following the final warning we will arrange for a parent or guardian to collect them from camp early.

Serious breaches of the Code of Conduct. In rare circumstances where a young person seriously breaches the Code of Conduct and we feel other young people are at serious risk of harm, we may arrange for a parent or guardian to collect them from camp immediately.





Section 2 For Young People

What Do Young People Think Of Camp?







GAZI

Camp made me feel like I was part of something. I've felt quite insignificant and small before, but now I just feel like I can make a difference and be better. I feel more confident and know myself better after camp. I used to get scared of bugs and insects before but now I'm kind of feeling free to just explore and try to be connected with them because they are living things. I'll definitely talk to my friends about camp and tell them about all the various experiences, like the coast, the woodlands, the forests.

REESE

important for kids my age and younger to go into this sort of stuff. Especially if they are city kids, they need to have that. That touch of nature. It strengthens your social skills, it makes you more aware of different causes going on around the world. And even if it doesn't do that for you, it just lets you be free with nature.

MAISIE

I think camp is an important opportunity because it helps young people connect with nature and have opportunities to see things they may have never done before. I learned so much stuff that I'd never even known about before. It's important because a lot of us are from the city and don't get to connect with nature as much. After camp I feel much more passionate about fixing stuff now that I know

Plan Your Application

STEP 1

Read through this
Application Pack carefully
with your parent/guardian.
You can find out more details
about the camps on pages 6-8.

STEP 3

Complete the Application Forms with your parent/guardian.
You can complete these forms online via our website or print out, complete and send the Application Forms on pages 22-25 by email or post, along with any additional materials.

STEP 2

Come up with your answers for our three Application Questions listed on page 21. You can record your answers directly in the online application form (see step 3), write on paper and post to us, or send us your answers in video, voice recording or word doc via camps@actionforconservation.org. If you want to include photos and/or art in your application please do!



STEP 4

Submit your application by:

Sunday 7th April 2024 at midnight



Hints & Tips

We encourage applicants to include any additional material that may support your application and help us understand your idea.

The more creative you can be, the better. Think:

- Drawings
- Photographs
- Videos
- Audio recordings
- Real life examples

Struggling to think of an idea?

Check out the websites of a few local environmental groups to see what kind of work they do and where they could use your help.
Or you could ask a teacher like your Geography or Science teacher.

Definitions

Environmental issue:

A problem that is bad for nature (animals, plants and people). For example, air pollution, plastic pollution or cutting down trees.

Action:

Something you can do to help solve an environmental issue. For example, planting trees in your local park or school.





Application Timeline

6th February

Applications open

7th April

Closing date for applications

8th April

Action for Conservation begins reviewing applications

15th May

Action for Conservation notifies all applicants

5th June

Consent forms due

Follow us

See how other young people are taking action by following us on X (Twitter) and Instagram at:

@Action4Conserv

And on TikTok and Facebook at:

@ActionForConservation













Section 3 For Parents & Guardians



Information For Parents & Guardians

CANCELLATION POLICY

Parents/guardians must contact us at least three weeks in advance of camp if you need to cancel your child's place. AFC covers the full cost of delivering camps for all young people, and last-minute cancellations make it very difficult to re-allocate the space to enable other young people to take part in this fantastic opportunity and result in the charity losing funds that we are unable to reclaim.

Cancellations made with less than three weeks' notice may result in a cancellation fee of £50 if we are unable to fill the space.

APPLYING ON BEHALF OF A YOUNG PERSON

Young people should write their own camp application and parents/guardians should never apply for camp on behalf of their child without their consent and involvement in the process. Young people may need support with their application and we ask that parents/guardians approach this collaboratively, ensuring that their child is taking the lead wherever possible (see tips on page 18). Encouraging young people to actively lead in writing their application empowers them and ensures that they are genuinely enthusiastic about the opportunity. This, in turn, contributes to a more positive and engaging environment for everyone on camp.

How to Support Your Child's Application

- Read through this application pack with your child.
- Discuss if your child would like to apply.
 Do they have any concerns about applying or attending the Summer Camps?
- Discuss what environmental issues are important to them. If they are unsure help them research some environmental groups local to your area. E.g. Friends of Local Park Groups, your local Wildlife Trust, River, Canal and beach clean-up groups.
- Ask them to think about any problems they've seen on local streets, in parks or in other areas like canals, woods and beaches. Or if they learnt about issues from the news or on social media.
- Encourage them to be creative with their application. Help them film their video or support them to find and use craft materials.
- We want to see that young people are eager to tackle an environmental problem and not that they know absolutely everything about the problem or how to solve it - that's what the camp is for!
- Please do not answer the application questions for your child.









Section 4 Application Guidelines & Forms

Application Guidelines

ANSWERING THE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

While we don't ask for a specific word count, we do want to fully understand the details and complexities of your ideas, so please answer in as much detail as possible.

Remember, we want to see that you are eager to tackle an environmental problem and not that you know absolutely everything about the problem or how to solve it - that's what the camp is for!

APPLYING WITH A FRIEND

You can apply to camp as an individual or with a friend or relative. If you decide to apply with someone else, you both must submit your own Application Forms and answer the Application Questions independently.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION-ONLINE

You can record your answers to the three Application Questions and complete the **Application Forms**directly online here. You can upload additional materials (like artwork or videos) to the online form too.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION-BY EMAIL OR POST

Answer the Application Questions listed on page 21 and complete the Application Forms on pages 22–25. You can answer the Application Questions directly on page 21, in writing on a separate document, by taking a video of yourself or by creating a voice recording answering these questions.

NEED HELP?

Our team is always available to offer advice and answer any questions you may have. If you need help, email us at: **camps@actionforconservation.org**





APPLY BY POST:

Action for Conservation
South Wing, Somerset House
London, WC2R 1LA



APPLY BY EMAIL:

camps@actionforconservation.org



APPLY ONLINE:

actionforconservation.org/camp

CLICK HERE TO APPLY ONLINE



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- Drawings
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- Videos
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- Real life examples

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Application Questions

QUESTION 1

Identify an environmental issue that is important to you and tell us why. This could be a local, national or global issue.

QUESTION 2

What action would you take to solve this problem?

QUESTION 3

How would you persuade people to take action with you?

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GENERAL INFORMATION FORM - PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Applicant Name (FIRST and LAST):		Date of Birth*: *You must be aged between 12 and 16 years old at the time of camp						
Nearest Town/City:		School Na		·				
Applicant Email Address:		**We may get in touch with your school about our other programmes.						
If you are applying with a friend, please write the ***Please note that we cannot guarantee that you cannot guarantee		accepted or	n camp, b	ut we'll do c	our best	!		
Which camps are you available to attend? (tick a	ıll that apply):							
□ 29th July - 2nd August 2024 □ 11th - 15th	n August 2024	□ 12th - 16t	h August :	2024				
How much environmental knowledge do you think you have? Rank your answer from 1-10, where 1 = very little knowledge and 10 = lots of knowledge. We aim to take a group of young people with different levels of knowledge, so there is no right or wrong answer here.								
1 2 3 4	5	6	7	8	9		10	
How did you hear about us/the Summer Camps? I took part in AFC's WildED Programme								
Do you require any support with reading or writing in English? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say								
Applicant's accommodation preference:								
What type of accommodation are you comfortal **** Accommodation varies at each camp location, accommodation please get in touch with our team.			-	ere possible	. If you	have que:	stions about	the
□ Shared dormitory □ Private room □ Shared room with one other								
If you have selected a shared dormitory or shared room, which dormitory/room would you stay in? □ Male □ Female								

Action for Conservation takes your privacy seriously and will only use your personal information to administer your application to attend this camp and contact you to let you know whether or not your were successful. We always treat personal details with the utmost care and confidentiality, as outlined in our Privacy Policy and your details will not be shared with any other party.

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PARENTAL CONSENT FORM - PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name of Parent/Guardian:	Parent/Guardian Telephone Number:
Relationship to Child:	Parent/Guardian Email Address:
Can we support you as the parent/guardian with any langu For example, English is not your spoken/written language and you	=
□ Yes □ No □ Prefer not to say	
If you selected 'yes' above, please specify your preferred la	inguage:
	orking and accommodating young people with disabilities and health impairment, learning difference or long-term illness or health condition
□ Yes □ No □ Prefer not to say	
□ Physical impairment or mobility difficulties, such as difficulty u □ Blind or having a serious visual impairment uncorrected by gla □ Deaf or hard of hearing □ Mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or □ A specific learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or A □ General learning disability, such as Down's syndrome, or multip □ A social/communication impairment or difficulty such as Aspecial Long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, □ Prefer not to say □ Another disability not listed above / Prefer to self-describe (p	anxiety disorder (D(H)D) ple learning difficulties erger's syndrome or other autistic spectrum disorder diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy clease specify): ur child has the best experience on camp? Please specify: rstand your child and their needs and will not impact their application.
I confirm that my child has consented to apply to the Action questions themselves. Parents and guardians are encouraged Yes	n for Conservation camps and that they have answered the application if to support their child in their application.
I confirm that I understand and consent to Action for Conse	ervation's cancellation policy found on page 17.
Conservation camps and understand that if successful, my child	will be offered an all-inclusive place on one of Action for Conservation's will consider a number of factors including geographical location.
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	Date:

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EQUALITY & DIVERSITY FORM - PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Filling in this part of the form is voluntary and if completed should be done so by the applicant.

Action for Conservation aims to monitor its progress against aims set out in its Equality and Diversity Policy. We would be grateful if you could help us by completing the below information to help us with this monitoring.

Gender Identity:	□ Male	□ Female	□ Non-Binary	□ Prefer to self-d	escribe:
Preferred Pronouns:	□ He/Him	□ She/Her	□ They/Them	□ Prefer not to so	ay □ Other (please specify):
Pronouns are short work than using their name of		, he, you, we, they	v, us and them. They	are used to descri	be either individuals or groups of people, rather
What is your ethnicity you belong. Please tic		=	nationality, place o	of birth or citizens	hip. It is about the group to which you perceive
Asian/Asian British					
□ Asian British □ In	dian	□ Pakistani	□ Bangladeshi	□ Chinese	□ Other, please specify:
Black/Black British					
□ Black British □ Af	rican	□ Caribbean	□ Other, please sp	pecify:	
Mixed/multiple ethnic	groups				
□ White and Black Caril	obean	□ White and Blacl	k African □ Wl	nite and Asian	□ Other, please specify:
White					
□ English □ Welsh	□ Sco	ttish 🗆 Northe	ern Irish 🗆 Irish	□ British	□ Traveller Communities
□ Other, please specify	:				
Other ethnic groups Arab/Middle Eastern Prefer not to say my		an □ Hispanio	c/Latino □ Ro	ma □ Jewish	□ Other, please specify:
What is your religion o	or belief?				
□ Atheist □ Buddhis	st 🗆 Co			Hindu □ Jew	ish □ Muslim □ Sikh
□ No religion or belief	□ Prefer r	not to say □ If o	ther religion or beli	ef, please specify:	
What is the occupation	n of your m	ain household e	arner?		
☐ Manual and service of retail assistant, clea		•	orker, machine oper	ative, security guar	d, caretaker, farm worker, receptionist,
□ Clerical and intermed	liate occupo	itions such as seci	retary, personal ass	istant, office clerk,	call centre agent, administrator
□ Modern professional	occupations	such as teacher,	nurse, social worke	r, musician, police c	officer, software designer, estate agent
□ Middle or junior mand	agers such as	s office manager,	retail manager, ba	nk manager, restau	rant manager, warehouse manager, bar manager
□ Senior managers and	directors su	ch as finance ma	nager, marketing m	anager, communic	ations director, chief executive
□ Technical and craft o	ccupations s	such as mechanic,	, plumber, printer, e	lectrician, landscap	pe gardener, train driver
□ Traditional profession	al occupatio	ons such as accou	ntant, solicitor, med	dical practitioner, c	ivil/mechanical engineer, investment banker
□ Small business owner	s (employing	less than 25 peo	ple) such as owner	of a shop, painters	and decorators, single restaurant/bar, taxi
□ Long-term unemploye	ed (claimed .	lobseeker's Allowo	ance or earlier uner	nployment benefit f	for more than a year)
□ Prefer no to say		□ Other, please	specify:		

Action for Conservation takes your privacy seriously and will only use your personal information to administer your application to attend this camp. We always treat personal details with the utmost care and confidentiality, as outlined in our Privacy Policy and your details will not be shared with any other party.

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COMMUNICATIONS FORM - PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

From time to time we would like to contact you with details on our other work, news and projects. Please let us know whether you would like to be contacted by Action for Conservation in this way by ticking one of the following boxes: **APPLICANT** Yes, I would like to hear from Action for Conservation \square No, I do not want to be contacted by Action for Conservation If you consent to us contacting you for this purpose, please tick the box(es) below to say how you would like us to contact you: ☐ Email ☐ Telephone ☐ Text / WhatsApp **PARENTS/GUARDIANS** Yes, I would like to hear from Action for Conservation \square No, I do not want to be contacted by Action for Conservation If you consent to us contacting you for this purpose, please tick the box(es) below to say how you would like us to contact you: ☐ Email ☐ Telephone ☐ Text / WhatsApp You can change your mind at any time by emailing comms@actionforconservation.org

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE SENT A FULL INFORMATION PACK AND CONSENT FORMS.