



ACTION

FOR CONSERVATION

Summer Camp Inclusion Statement

General Statement

Action for Conservation (AFC) is an environmental action charity that runs workshops, residential summer camps and events for young people inside and outside of school environments across the UK. AFC recognises that it is essential to provide equal opportunities to all people without discrimination and that all children, regardless of disability, sex, gender, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse and a right to equal opportunities.

This statement sets out how AFC will approach and support young people during AFC's residential summer camps.

Inclusive facilities

Each bunkhouse that we use has a unique layout and facilities. Where possible, we prioritise using bunkhouses that offer young people a range of room options, including single occupancy rooms, twin rooms and shared dormitories. When young people apply for camp, we ask them about their room preferences and do our best to accommodate these. Where this is not possible, we will speak to young people about the alternative options available. We prioritise booking facilities with individual and gender-neutral toilet and shower rooms where possible. Where this is not possible we will speak to all young people to ensure they are comfortable with the options available to them.

Religious Practices

We are committed to providing spaces for young people on camp to safely take part in religious practices as part of their faith. We accommodate dietary requests to ensure that meals meet the needs of young people's faith and can offer a private prayer space at all our camp locations. We will speak with young people and their parents/guardians about any needs or preferences prior to camp.

Gender Identity

We recognise young people's right to express their gender in the way that feels right for them. In practice, this means accepting young people's preferred gender identity and/or expression without question and using their preferred name and pronouns. Trans and non-binary young people are welcome on camp and we will speak to all young people, including trans and non-binary young people, about the facilities available and their needs ahead of camp.

Additional Needs and Disability Support

We are committed to an open way of working and removing barriers for young people with additional needs and disabilities on camp. Our team has a wide range of experience working with young people with additional needs and disabilities but we are not trained disability specialists. Therefore, when young people with additional needs or disabilities apply to camp, we will speak with them and their parent/guardian to ensure we are able to fully support them on camp and have a full understanding of their needs. We may also ask to speak with young people's teacher or support worker, where relevant, for additional information.

Language

Our summer camps take place in England and Wales and are delivered in English. We understand that not all young people participating in our summer camps will have English as their first language or may have parents/guardians who require language support. We will do our best to accommodate the language needs of young people and their parents/guardians to ensure that they have the best experience possible on camp. If young people requires a translator, we may be able to accommodate them on camp as a volunteer, but we will be unable to contribute to the cost of this service.

Dietary requirements

During the residential summer camps, all food is prepared and supervised by trained staff and volunteers. Meals on camp are vegetarian, healthy and nutritious, with organic and local ingredients sourced wherever possible. We understand that some young people may be unfamiliar with vegetarian cooking and may feel worried about this. We will speak to all young people before camp to give them an idea of the meals we eat, discuss their food preferences and work to ensure there is always something on the menu that they enjoy. We accommodate all dietary requirements and allergies (vegan, lactose-free, celiac etc.).