



## Outdoor and Environmental Education Service

**‘Outdoor and environmental education makes an important contribution to physical, personal and social education.’ (Ofsted).**

The Outdoor and Environmental Education service (OEE) offers your school opportunities to experience quality outdoor learning experiences that enrich the curriculum and help learners to reach their potential through positive engagement with the education process, increased confidence, group awareness, healthy activity and fun.

The service provides two high quality residential centres in the Peak District: Hagg Farm Outdoor Education Centre (for Key Stage 2 pupils and upwards) and St Michael’s Environmental Education Centre (for primary school pupils).

In addition, we have Perlethorpe Environmental Education Centre in the Thoresby Estate, Brackenhurst Environmental Education Centre on the Nottingham Trent University campus near Southwell, and Sherwood Forest Country Park near Edwinstowe offering day visits for pupils closer to home. The Mill Adventure Base, at Kingsmill Reservoir, offers a range of outdoor activities, team challenges and adventure both on and off site for Key Stage 2 - 4, and has a peripatetic facility to bring activities to school grounds.

### What we offer

- Wide range of adventurous and environmental activities led by highly qualified staff at warm, welcoming and well resourced centres.
- At Hagg Farm activities include rock climbing, canoeing, caving, orienteering, hillwalking, abseiling, gorge walking, zipwire and a host of problem solving exercises, field studies, conservation and environmental/art activities.

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/schoolsportal](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/schoolsportal)

### Our pledge

We provide and support quality outdoor learning experiences for pupils that are safe, enriching, educational and fun. Our qualified, motivated and experienced staff deliver the highest standards of safety and learning to help service users reach their potential through tailored programmes of activities.

- At St Michael's activities include walking around the local gritstone edges, village studies, orienteering, conservation, stream dipping, history walks with role play and environmental art.
- A range of catering packages to suit your group are available at the residential centres and each group has sole use of the centre.
- Training for teachers and leaders to empower them to meet the relevant needs of young people, the wider community and the school's curriculum.
- Perlethorpe Centre is housed in a former village school with a genuine Victorian classroom. It offers a variety of activities including literacy, maths, art and history using the outdoor environment.
- Brackenhurst Centre is on a site with a working farm with access to farm animals, Victorian walled gardens and glasshouses. Activities on offer include looking at life processes, literacy, history and art.
- Sherwood Forest Country Park has a centre for schools' use. Activities include Robin Hood and Medieval Life, shelter building, orienteering and habitat studies.
- Adventure activities at The Mill Adventure Base include climbing, sailing, canoeing, mobile climbing wall, Jacobs ladder, team wall and underground passageways (tubing) as well as off site activities such as mountain biking, abseiling, rock climbing and weaselling.
- The centres have an inclusive approach and the buildings and activities are adapted and available for all users regardless of ability/disability.
- Fully supported and individually tailored school visits, including risk assessments, health and safety policies and procedures, teaching programmes and curriculum resources.
- The OEE team provides technical and practical support for access to the DofE award within the County. This includes setting up and maintaining the award within school, staff training, participant achievement support, health and safety advice and access to support delivering expeditions.
- Information, advice and guidance for school visits and outdoor education including the use of an electronic visits management system. We endeavour to respond to all enquires within a five day period and all approval forms within 10 days.



## Benefits to your school

- ▶ Affordable, well regarded and reputable opportunities within 1.5 hours journey time of any Nottinghamshire school.
- ▶ Outdoor activities can enrich the life of each individual by personal achievement/development, raise their self esteem and realise their full potential.
- ▶ Residential and day opportunities for whole year group packages through multiple courses to increase group cohesion, instill school ethos and cement relationships with staff/pupils and peers.
- ▶ Courses for class groups to enhance curriculum and bring subjects alive including exam, fieldwork, PSHE, Self Second, transition to secondary and whole class cross curricular courses.
- ▶ GCSE PE (adventurous activities) training and assessment weeks at Hagg Farm have consistently and significantly improved attainment for students.
- ▶ Targeted courses for disaffected young people to help them achieve success and re-engage them with the education process (through schemes such as Self Second at Hagg Farm).
- ▶ Improve and promote physical health and emotional wellbeing through outdoor experiences and enjoyment of outdoor recreation.
- ▶ Access to specialist advice and guidance regarding school visits through our Outdoor Education Advice service, which is a statutory expectation within health and safety law.

- ▶ The Duke of Edinburgh's Award frequently features positively in schools' Ofsted inspection reports, DofE can help improve the outcomes of future inspections through evidencing key areas of pupil development.
- ▶ Bespoke activity packages can be designed in consultation with yourselves to meet your aims.

## Costs

A breakdown of the variety of packages available and their costs can be seen on our website, including links to our outdoor and environmental education centres. Visit: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/outdoorenvironmental](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/outdoorenvironmental)



## Training

A wide range of training is available including; HSE approved First Aid, national governing body leadership qualifications (mountain leader, walking group leader, cave leader, rock climbing, orienteering) and Bringing Your School Grounds To Life. See 'Outdoor and Environmental Training Opportunities' online for details: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/outdoorenvironmental](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/outdoorenvironmental)

- All courses contribute to competency, skills and knowledge and many lead to nationally recognised qualifications.
- Experienced and highly qualified Outdoor and Environmental Education staff deliver courses throughout the year.

- Courses are held mainly at the Outdoor and Environmental Education Centres. Some courses can be delivered at your own school e.g. bespoke first aid training.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award trainer and assessor accreditations.

“ The best residential I have had in 14 years of teaching. The activities were just superb. This really was outdoor education at its finest. ”

Teacher  
Bleasby CofE Primary School



Hagg Farm Outdoor Education Centre

Tel: 01433 651594

St Michael's Environmental Education Centre

Tel: 01433 650309

Environmental Education Day Centres

Tel: 01623 822218

The Mill Adventure Base, DofE and Outdoor Education Advice

Tel: 01623 556110

Email: [outdoor.environmental@nottscg.gov.uk](mailto:outdoor.environmental@nottscg.gov.uk)

