


CAMPAIGN for
NATIONAL PARKS


YMGYRCH y
PARCIAU CENEDLAETHOL

NEW PERSPECTIVES

FUTURE LEADERS COURSE

**INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION
OF NATIONAL PARK CHANGE-MAKERS!**

Applicant information pack



Gwnaed yn bosibl gan

**Cronfa
Treftadaeth**

Made possible with

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Fund**

WHAT ARE NATIONAL PARKS?

National Parks are wild and unique spaces, vital for the health of nature, people and planet. They are defined as substantial tracts of land, sometimes remote, with wide open spaces large enough to provide the public with opportunities for outdoor recreation. National Parks are designated because of their landscape quality, wildlife and their values as a recreational resource.

National Parks have two purposes:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
- To promote opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Parks

There are 15 National Parks in the UK, 10 in England, 3 in Wales and 2 in Scotland.

CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS

Campaign for National Parks is the only independent charity dedicated to securing the future of National Parks in England and Wales. Our independence from government means we can speak out for Protected Landscapes when no-one else can.

Founded in 1936, we bring together a campaigning collective of organisations and individuals from all walks of life united in common cause. Our first campaigns resulted in the creation of our National Parks. Now, inspired by our past, we fight for the future. We want a world where nature and people are thriving in our National Parks, where wildlife is wild and natural beauty is protected for generations to come. Where everyone, no matter their age or background, can access, feel inspired by and fight to protect the future of these truly amazing landscapes.

With National Parks at the heart of everything we do: we're here to unite, inspire and empower everyone to take action.

OUR NEW PERSPECTIVES PROJECT

The New Perspectives project, generously funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is a two-year project to engage more young people in the National Parks movement.

INTRODUCING THE COURSE

The Future Leaders programme is for young people who want to make a difference - for National Parks, landscapes, nature and people. The programme has been developed with young people and focuses on supporting you to advance as a next generation leader and change-maker.

Our experiential course includes:

- **PRACTICAL** skills, such as storytelling and communications;
- **THEORETICAL** skills such as leadership styles and team working;
- A **FOCUS** on equity and social justice for all
- A **REFLECTIVE** programme of activities to inspire future leaders

The course will provide the opportunity to hone these skills and put them to practice influencing National Park decision makers. Through the course, you will learn in some of our most amazing landscapes, supported by a peer group of like-minded brilliant young leaders, and learn from some of the most effective change-makers in the UK today.

IS THIS COURSE FOR YOU?

You may be a young professional working in an NGO or a National Park, you might be a young activist or campaigner, you might volunteer or regularly spend time in National Parks or it might be you just love them and want to develop your skills to protect them. There are many reasons why this course might be right for you! If you want to chat this through, please don't hesitate to join our drop-in sessions online or email the team—info@cnp.org.uk

The application process includes completion of an application form online. After the closing date applicants will be shortlisted and those successful on shortlisting will be invited to an informal interview before we allocate places.



National Parks in England and Wales



2022/23 New Perspectives grant holder Erika with walk participants on Dartmoor

THE DETAIL

The programme will run through 3 key phases:

Phase 1: The residential retreat

The programme will start with a weekend residential in Dartmoor National Park on 4-6th October where you will meet your fellow future leaders from across the environment sector. You will work collaboratively and independently to nurture your leadership core skills and experience.

The residential will be hosted by leaders from Campaign for National Parks and across the nature and landscapes sector, supported by a specialist leadership coach and facilitator. The programme may be subject to change due to speakers and weather but will focus on 4 key sessions:

- 1. Self-leadership;** themes in this session look at what leadership is, leadership values, equity, power, strengths and your comfort zone.
- 2. Being a Change-maker;** understanding the landscape and helping you set out your vision as a future leader, developing & utilising your leadership strengths. We'll also think about how you can use your leadership positions to affect positive change.
- 3. Leadership & campaigning;** a practical session to help you flex your confidence muscles and empowering you to communicate your vision. We'll look at supporting you to develop your very own calls to action and develop plans to influence change using storytelling & communications at the heart.
- 4. Leadership in practice;** an opportunity to tell your story to invited National Park VIPs and decision makers.

Campaign for National Parks ambassador Ruth speaking at the 2023 National Park Protector Awards



Phase 2: Skills into action – online collaboration

Following the residential, the programme will evolve depending on the group's vision and the stories you wish to tell and/or campaigns you want to create. This may be to work collectively to develop some campaigning activity for and on behalf of Campaign for National Parks or to work individually as champions for Campaign for National Parks in your area. We'll provide additional training and skills opportunities virtually and events will be hosted for participants to attend online.

Phase 3: Future leadership in action

We'll close the course at our annual National Park Protector Awards – held at the House of Lords on 11th December. You're invited to join us and there will be further opportunities for participants to take part and put your leadership skills into practice.

We'll also provide a pathway to develop your National Park ambitions and networks with opportunities both at Campaign for National Parks and with the partners of the project including local National Park Authorities and Societies.

NOTE: Prior to phase 1 commencing, we will host a welcome pre-meeting online on 26th September to settle you in to the programme and to share final plans for the course.



Please read this information pack carefully and then submit your application online [here](#). The online form will ask you about yourself and why you'd like to come on the course. You can't save your answers and return, so make sure to have them ready! You can find the three main questions we'll ask in this pack.

The course is open to young people resident in England and Wales, who are: at the time of the course, 20 to 30 (inclusive) years old, passionate about making a positive difference in the conservation and/or environmental sector and (but not exclusively) interested in National Parks.

This course is an opportunity to accelerate skills and for young people ambitious to make change happen – whether personally or professionally and we want to help you develop those skills.

We are committed to developing an inclusive and diverse Campaign for National Parks, in which everyone feels supported, valued, and able to be their full selves. To achieve our vision of nature-rich National Parks for everyone.

We know people of colour and disabled people are currently underrepresented across the environment, climate, sustainability, and conservation sector. If you identify as a person of colour and/or disabled/neurodiverse, we are particularly interested in receiving your application. Contact us to discuss any additional support you may need to complete your application.

WHEN AND WHERE

We're delighted to take our first course to the stunning Dartmoor National Park.

Why Dartmoor – thanks to Dartmoor Preservation Association, our partner for the New Perspectives project, they will be our hosts for the October 2024 residential.

The Dartmoor Preservation Association is an independent membership organisation who have been fighting to keep Dartmoor wild and free since 1883.

Location: [YHA Postbridge](#)

- The nearest rail station is Newton Abbot which is 16 miles away
- The nearest bus stop is within 100 metres of the hostel. There is a daily bus service which runs to this stop.
- We'll provide a mini-bus from Newton Abbot to the accommodation for arrivals & vice-versa for departures.

Date/Time:

- Course commences with a virtual welcome orientation workshop – 26th September 6-7:30pm – meet fellow participants, course leaders, facilitators and finalise plans for the residential
- Residential starts – 12 noon Friday 4th October
- Residential ends: 2pm – Sunday 6th October
- Accessibility information for YHA – see [YHA website](#)



Key dates:

As a participant, you are required to commit to all of these dates to successfully complete the course.

- Information drop-in sessions - 15th August – 6-7pm and 20th August – 6-7pm
- Applications close: 25th August
- Applicant interviews: w/c 2nd Sept
- Confirmation of placement: by 11th September
- Virtual welcome orientation: 26th September, 6-7pm
- Residential: 4th – 6th October
- Online workshop - 22nd October, 6-7.30pm
- Online workshop - 5th November, 6-7.30pm
- Online workshop - 19th November, 6-7.30pm



COST AND EQUIPMENT

The course is completely free of charge thanks to funders the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

However, we only have 20 places, and far fewer spaces than applicants. We do ask that, by applying, you commit to taking your place and attending all the leadership sessions.

It is important to us that anyone can access the resources they need to develop their leadership skills.

You do not need to bring much to the course; you may find it helpful to bring a laptop/tablets if you have one, but we will be out and about so it may not always be practical to have it with you the whole time. We will provide notebooks and pens to participants. We recommend you bring a camera if you have one or be prepared to use your phone camera for taking photographs and /or capturing film/reels whilst you're there.

Additional support available;

- Small clothing allowance available for those who need it e.g. for rain coats, day rucksacks & walking shoes.
- A small travel allowance is available if travel costs may be a barrier to you attending. We encourage everyone to attend by public transport and a mini-bus will be set up to collect from the nearest train station. Travel details will be confirmed with successful participants.

The YHA is reachable by public transport via bus 98 with a bus stop within 100 metres of the hostel

Please indicate if you require either financial support allowances on the application form – we are keen to make this opportunity accessible to all.



ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be at the YHA Dartmoor - Postbridge for which we have exclusive hire for this course. The YHA has shared dormitories (same-sex) and you will be required to share with a small number of other course members.

Catering is provided by the YHA and we will provide more catering information for successful participants. Dietary requirements will be required as part of the application process.

We will aim to provide a quiet space for contemplation and prayer throughout the weekend.

The YHA is in the middle of the Dartmoor so we'll have lots of outdoor time as well as some down time during the busy weekend.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Safeguarding

Safeguarding participants is of paramount importance to us. All of our core staff will have completed safeguarding training and will be DBS checked and cleared. A Designated Safeguarding Lead will be present. Campaign for National Park's Safeguarding Policy can be found by emailing our team – info@cnp.org.uk. We will also complete a full risk assessment before the start of course and ensure a plan is in place in the event of an emergency.

Accessibility

We are committed to making this course as accessible as possible. Our ambition is to support all emerging leaders to participate in the course if they wish to. If you have any accessibility requirements or concerns you would like to discuss you can tell us more in your application and/or email the team—info@cnp.org.uk

Inclusivity

We want our course to be a safe space for all participants, and so we ask everyone to abide by our Code of Conduct which will be shared upon being offered a place on the course for you to sign and commit to. You do not need to be experienced in nature or have spent lots of time in National Parks to apply, nor do you need leadership experience. We especially welcome applications from young people from underrepresented groups, particularly but not exclusively, if you identify as a person of colour and/or disabled/neurodiverse and we will happily help with some of the application process – get in touch to talk through this in more detail – info@cnp.org.uk.



2022/23 New Perspectives grant holder Erika with walk participants on Dartmoor

YOUR APPLICATION

For your application, you need to fill in the form online [here](#). You can't save your progress so you will need to complete the application in one go. We will ask you questions about yourself and your travel plans, and three questions to find out more about why you want to come on the course.

Those questions are:

1. Tell us what you hope to learn on the course, and how this would make a difference in your life (e.g. personally and/or professionally). Max 250 words.

1. Who is a leader or change-maker who inspires you, and why? Max 250 words

1. If you could create a mini-campaign or influence for change in National Parks – what would it look like and why? (Max 250 words)

If you'd rather record a video of yourself answering these questions, you can do so and email the video to info@cnp.org.uk. You will still need to fill in the rest of the application form online.

The deadline for applications is 11.59pm on Sunday 25th August 2024.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you still have questions, why not join one of our virtual drop-in sessions on Microsoft Teams where you can ask the team running the course any questions you have.

There are 2 drop-ins scheduled:

Thursday 15th August – 6-7pm

Tuesday 20th August – 6-7pm

Email info@cnp.org.uk to book onto a drop-in and we'll send you the link!



MADE POSSIBLE BY



Thanks to National Lottery Players