



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority

Role Profile

Dales Learning & Engagement Volunteer – Young Ranger Leader

Purpose of role

The Dales Learning & Engagement Volunteers are a group of specialist volunteers dedicated to supporting activities that help other people and groups to enjoy the opportunities the National Park has to offer.

This role is to work with staff and volunteers of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, to support a programme of Young Ranger activities.

Young Rangers is a programme of practical conservation tasks run in the Yorkshire Dales National Park for 11 to 16 year olds. The majority of the tasks are organised at weekends with a small number in school holidays.

There are two Young Ranger groups based in the North of the National Park, one usually meets at Bainbridge or Aysgarth, the second group meets at Sedbergh. You would be expected to work with one, or both of these groups on a regular basis.

Key tasks

You will be specifically working with staff and other volunteers to run the Young Rangers groups in the north and west of the National Park.

Your key task will be to support staff and other volunteers to run a programme of practical task days that are fun, informative and linked to learning environmental skills for 11 to 16 year olds.

This volunteer role includes meeting the young people off site with the Young Ranger Officer and traveling to the worksite in the minibus with the group.

You will be expected to work positively with staff, partner organisations and volunteers to promote the work and role of the National Park Authority.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Must enjoy working with young people, be friendly and approachable.
- A keen interest in the countryside
- Ability to support young people on practical conservation tasks.
- A broad understanding of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's aims objectives and vision.
- Flexible, adaptable and self-reliant.
- Able to work well as part of a team.
- Willingness to learn and take part in other relevant training opportunities and updates.

Practicalities

1. **Paperwork:** All volunteers must complete a:

- Registration Form
- Disclosure & Barring Service application
- Lone Working and Buddy System for Volunteers Form

Annually you will also be asked to complete: a Fitness to Volunteer Form and a Driver's Self Declaration Form

2. **Expenses:** Volunteers may, if they wish, claim reasonable out-of-pocket travel costs in line with the Authority volunteer expenses policy. A minimum of 4 volunteer days (including training days) must be carried out before a volunteer becomes eligible to claim expenses. (These first 4 duties may be claimed later, after the volunteer becomes an established volunteer.) To be able to claim expenses you will need to complete a one-off BACS form and Travel Expenses Claim Forms when you wish to claim.

3. **Supervision & Support:** You will work under the direction of the YDNPA Young Rangers Officer. The Volunteers Support Officer also provides administrative support for all volunteers

4. **Time commitment:** We ask for a minimum commitment of 6 days per year, due to the time and training invested in this role.

5. **Training:** We have a training programme that supports your development and the work of the Authority. This includes;

- Induction (National Park Awareness) & Administration
- Role Familiarisation
- Group Leader Training
- Emergency First Aid

The majority of training will be 'on-the-job', but where appropriate specific training will be provided. Support will be provided by staff and volunteer mentors.

6. **Reporting:** You will be required to keep a record of your number of days and record this on the Better Impact system

7. **Health & Safety:** The health & safety of staff and volunteers is of paramount importance. All activities are risk assessed and volunteers are expected to follow all relevant health & safety guidelines.

8. **Equipment:** Any necessary personal protective equipment as required by risk assessment will be provided by the Authority. This includes the loan of safety boots and waterproofs, and the provision of gloves.

9. **Communication:** All volunteers will be registered on the Better Impact System which we use for all signing up to volunteering activities, logging of hours and communication. There are a number of newsletters issued each year and an annual celebration event.

10. **Other benefits:** Dales Learning & Engagement Volunteers will be provided with a Yorkshire Dales National Park Car Park Pass and Authority uniform polo-shirt. A discount at Authority Information centres is available on request.

11. Becoming an established Dales Learning & Engagement Volunteer:

Volunteers interested in joining must successfully complete 4 duties (including training), showing an ability to participate in the team activities, before becoming accepted as a Dales Learning & Engagement Volunteer. This period gives both the volunteer and the organisation a chance to get to know each other.

This role is intended as a gift relationship between volunteers and the organisation, it is binding in honour and trust only and not intended to be legally binding.

Reviewed January 2018