

## LINCOLNSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

### APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OFFICER

Whisby Nature Park is a beautiful landscape near the city of Lincoln, full of wildlife, walks and trails. The park was created by quarrying for sand and gravel but nature has reclaimed the pits and bare sand, creating habitats for many species. This amazing place now abounds with wildlife.

The lakes at the Nature Park are surrounded by grassland, marsh, scrub and willow carr. Elements of the original landscape from before quarrying also remain, with fragments of heathland, old hedgerows and small oak woodland. In spring and summer, flocks of tits and finches are joined by warblers. The lakes attract feeding sand martins and swallows, and terns nest on the islands. Chiffchaffs and reed and sedge warblers can be heard. Whisby Nature Park has also become famous for nightingales. Autumn brings the first sight of winter birds such as goldcrests, redpolls and grey wagtails. In winter, the water levels are at their highest and wildfowl are numerous.

The reserve receives upwards of 130,000 visitors each year. The large number of visitors provides an excellent opportunity for education and interpretation, which has been exploited through the provision of hides, waymarked paths, a wardening service and the education centre.

Whisby education centre is a modern, purpose built facility. Facilities include a disabled friendly classroom, toilets and hand washing facilities, an enclosed outdoor activity area with picnic facilities close to the centre, purpose built pond dipping platforms with extensive stocks of field study equipment, resources, games and activities to enhance a visit. The education service offered by the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust at Whisby Nature Park has a wide range of activities from pond dipping and minibeast hunts to orienteering and storytelling. All activities offered can be linked to the National Curriculum to meet schools' requirements.

#### General duties

The Senior Education & Community Officer's primary role is to deliver inspiring environmental education and community activities. The post-holder will also develop and deliver a curriculum based programme of teaching for primary, secondary and under-graduate students along with community events for the public and co-ordinate conservation awareness work across the Nature Park. The post-holder will also be responsible for managing the operation of the education centre including promotion of activities, interpretive material, bookings and overseeing maintenance. The full range of tasks is set out in the job description (see document J319-118).

#### Conditions of Employment

This is a permanent full-time (35 hours per week) appointment. A salary of circa £26,000 per annum is offered (dependent on experience) plus a contributory pension scheme and sickness and disability benefits. A flexible working programme will be required which will include regular weekend, Bank Holiday and evening work. The annual leave entitlement is 23 days plus public holidays and three privilege days at Christmas.

#### Person Specification

Educated to degree level or equivalent in a relevant subject, the post is suited to someone with a passion for natural history, the environment and education. The work will include a lot of teaching and therefore some teaching experience is needed. A teaching or training qualification would be an advantage. The post-holder must hold a full UK driving licence and be prepared to use their own vehicle in connection with their duties.

Further requirements for the post are detailed in the person specification (see document J319-119).

As the post will involve working with children the successful candidate will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service in accordance with the Trust's policy. Further information about the disclosure scheme can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service)

#### Applications

Candidates should complete all sections of the application form provided and return it along with a short hand-written letter. Curriculum Vitae (CVs) will not be accepted as a substitute for the application form.

Applications should be marked 'Confidential' and addressed to: Chief Executive, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Banovallum House, Manor House Street, Horncastle, LN9 5HF to arrive not later than 4.00 pm on Friday 19 July 2019. Acknowledgement of applications will be made only if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 30 July 2019 at Whisby Nature Park.

Only those candidates selected for interview will be notified. If you do not hear from us by Wednesday 24 July 2019 you should assume that your application has been unsuccessful. Approved interview travel expenses up to £100 will be paid.

July 2019