



Fylde Outdoor Education Pack

Using our parks & coast to deliver the national curriculum





Introduction

Fylde's coast, countryside and green spaces are a valuable educational resource that can support a wide range of curriculum activities. They offer a diverse and unique range of natural environments for students to learn and be inspired within. This includes beautiful woodlands, beaches and dunes and formal parks.

Outdoor learning activities provide challenges and opportunities beyond that found in the classroom or school grounds. The benefits of outdoor learning has long been known and appreciated. Engaging activities and interactive learning provides students with a whole new method of learning, which allows them to develop

through real life experiences, trial and error, engagement of senses and all round getting their hands dirty.

Fylde's Outdoor Education Partnership

Fylde's outdoor education pack has been developed and produced by Fylde Council in partnership with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Park View 4U and Fairhaven Lake and Gardens. Each organisation is working together to make the Fylde borough as accessible and exciting as possible for education providers. Whilst each organisation offers its own individual sessions within respective areas of the Fylde borough, we have also combined expertise and resources to create brand new sessions.



Fylde Outdoor Education

Our Offer:

- A broad range of natural environments including woodland, sand dunes, beaches, salt marsh and formal parkland.
- Strong collaborations between environmental education partners including Fylde Council's Ranger Service, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Park View 4U and Fairhaven Lake and Gardens. You can be assured that all sessions and activities will combine each organisation's knowledge, resources and expertise.
- Ranger School sessions can be entirely bespoke regarding activity, location and duration. Sessions can be run within school grounds or in any Fylde open space.
- All sessions and host sites are fully risk assessed for the safety of pupils.
- We work with all ages, abilities and key stages to ensure an enjoyable and fulfilled learning experience.
- Activities are linked to the National Curriculum and can enhance school schemes of work and classroom learning.
- Nationally accredited and acknowledged Forest and Beach School sessions are delivered by fully qualified and experienced staff.
- We aim to promote citizenship, sustainability, appreciation and understanding of nature and wildlife at all times.
- Fylde's national Green Flag Award winning parks provide a beautiful, safe and well equipped environment for outdoor learning.
- Opportunities for sessions to contribute towards sections of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, John Muir award and various Scout and Brownie badges.

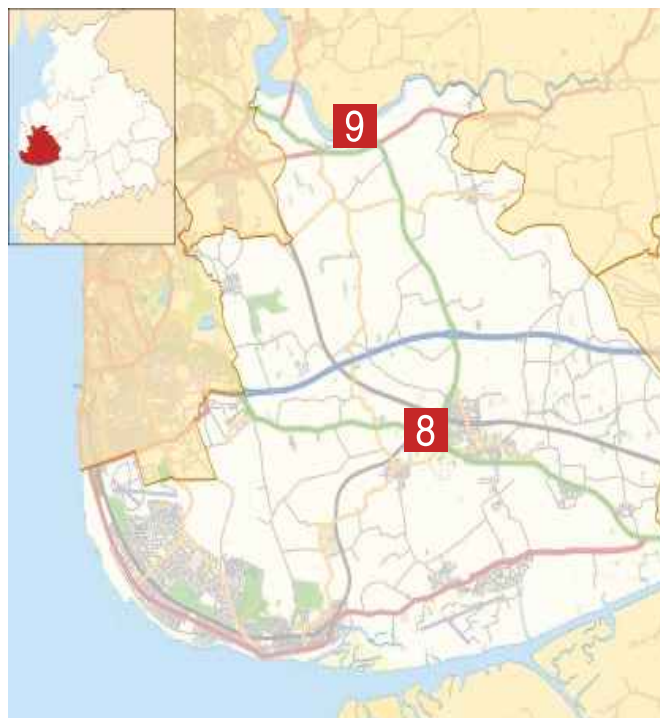


Fylde Outdoor Education

Fylde Council's Ranger Service can accommodate both field visits to one of Fylde's fabulous open spaces or come to your education setting.

We can undertake bespoke environmental sessions, assembly talks as well as after school clubs. We undertake tailor made outdoor education sessions on formal parklands such as Ashton Gardens, Lowther Gardens and Fairhaven Lake as well as on the coast and the Ribble Estuary.

The duration of each session is flexible depending on your requirements, although most run from two hours up to a full day. Our Rangers can assist you in designing and selecting suitable activities to facilitate the learning outcomes for your school.



1 Fylde Sand Dunes & Lytham St Annes Local Nature Reserve	2 Ashton Gardens, (Clifton Drive North FY8 2AW)
3 Fylde Coastline & Ribble Estuary	4 Fairhaven Lake & Gardens, (Inner Promenade FY8 1BD)
5 Lowther Gardens, (Lowther Terrace FY8 5QQ)	6 Lytham Hall, (Ballam Road FY8 4JX)
7 Park View 4u, (Park View Road FY8 4JE)	8 On Site School Visits, (Borough Wide)
9 Fairhaven Road Car Park - Coach Parking	

Please use this key as a guide to locating areas of education on the map below*



This map is for guidance only, some streets may be missing and these are approximate positions*

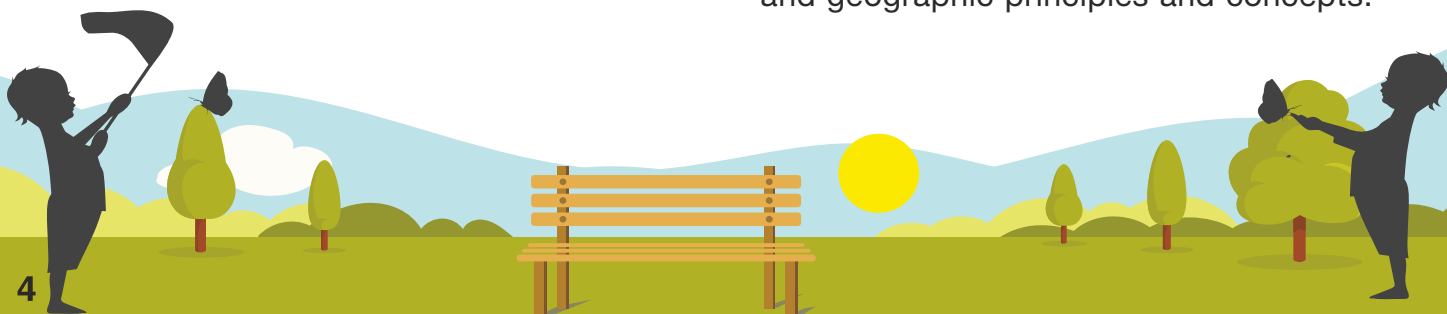


What We Offer

- Qualified and experienced Rangers who will plan and lead all activities
- Teacher designed interactive and engaging learning experiences
- Bespoke sessions regarding content, location and duration
- All learning resources, equipment and materials
- Safe and controlled access to a range of outdoor spaces and their facilities
- Health and safety information and risk assessment summary

The activities in this pack have been designed by qualified teachers to enhance learning around the primary and secondary national curriculum. Activities focus on scientific enquiry, allowing pupils to explore and raise their own questions and to broaden their scientific view of the world.

Field skills include using equipment safely and correctly, collecting and recording data, analysis and communication, species identification, classification and sorting. Older pupils can also develop a greater understanding of a wide range of scientific and geographic principles and concepts.



Ranger School

The aim of Ranger School is to engage and educate young people in conservation and the local environment using Fylde's open spaces. Ranger School delivers:

- School based activities and learning opportunities throughout the year
- School assemblies, school garden development and after school club activities
- Activities in the schools local countryside or parish, exploring the natural world
- Activities within parks including Ashton Gardens, Fairhaven Lake and Lowther Gardens
- Activities on ecological sites including Green Drive Woodland, Fylde Sand Dunes and Ribble Estuary
- Activities that cater for SEND pupils - please provide any specific needs and details

Ranger School delivers activities linked with four main environmental themes as identified within the illustrated table.

All activities link with the national curriculum and schools can book a single session to supplement a current classroom topic or book a series of sessions over a longer period.

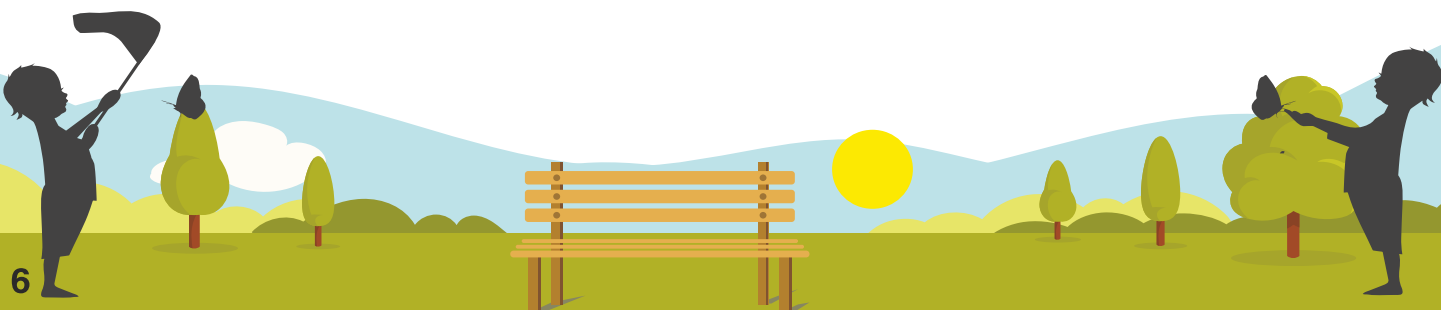
If you choose to complete all four workshops then students will graduate as Junior Rangers and will receive a certificate and badge.

Junior Rangers then have the opportunity to progress to Advanced Ranger School by working alongside Rangers in school or within the local community.

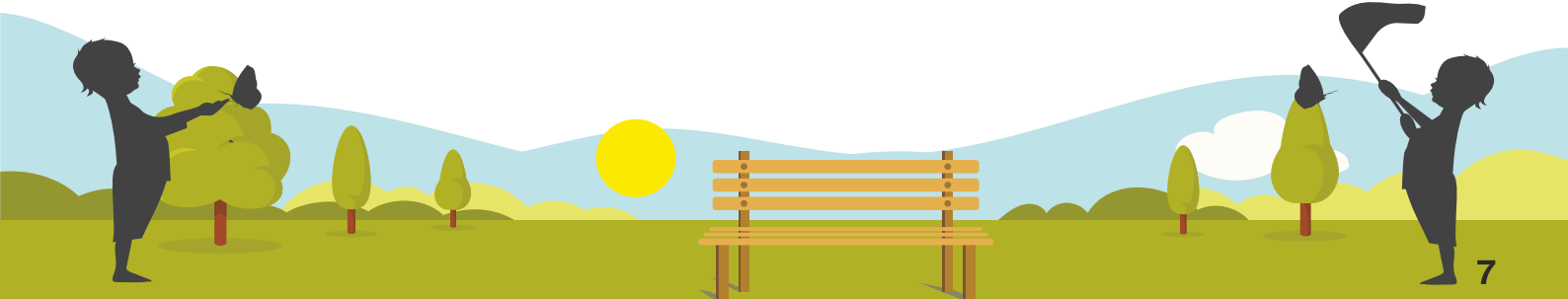
This could include assisting with real life environmental issues and practical conservation projects such as the Fylde's Sand Dune project, working with the Lancashire Wildlife Trust.



Activity Themes	Key Stage	National Curriculum Link
Super Survival • Outdoor skills including orienteering, map and compass reading • Green activities and games • Ranger led historical or nature walks at a chosen location: increasing knowledge and understanding of the local environment • Bush craft skills: learn how to build shelters, find food, clean water, light fires	KS 2, 3, 4 & 5	• Working Scientifically • Maths/Measurement • Maths/Geometry • Biology • Art • Physical Geography • PSHE
Ecology and Conservation Adventure • Identification of local environments and habitats • Introduction to ecosystems, life processes, food chains, food webs and life cycles • Species identification and basic survey skills • Mini-beast hunts and creating bug hotels to explore habitats and biodiversity • Introduction to conservation as a concept and why it matters • Understanding land management, wildlife protection and habitat creation • Exploration of hard and soft conservation relevant to the location • Everyday conservation actions such as recycling, reusing and reducing waste, and why these actions are important	KS 1, 2, 3, 4	• Working Scientifically • Biology • Physical Geography • Plants • Animals • Living Things/Habitats • Seasonal Changes • PSHE



Activity Themes	Key Stage	National Curriculum Link
Wonderful Woodland • What is a woodland? • Signs of the season – take a look at seasonal changes within a woodland • Plant and tree identification • Tree planting: learn how to plant a tree properly to ensure its survival • Soil studies: look at what happens below the ground • Introduction to woodland biodiversity • Survey skills • Decay and deadwood	KS1, 2, 3, 4	• Working Scientifically • Biology • Plants • Animals • Living Things/Habitats • Art • Physical Geography • Seasonal Changes • Evolution & Adaption • PSHE
Wildlife-Friendly Gardening • Exploring the school grounds to identify existing habitats, plants and wildlife • Understanding biodiversity and how gardens can support healthy ecosystems • Learning how plants provide food, shelter and breeding spaces for wildlife • Introduction to wildlife-friendly gardening techniques, including planting for pollinators • Creating or maintaining habitats such as wildflower areas, log piles, ponds, bug hotels and hedgerows • Understanding organic growing methods and why avoiding chemicals benefits wildlife and people • Practical gardening activities such as planting, seed sowing and caring for living things • Simple actions pupils can take at school and at home to help nature thrive	KS1, 2, 3, 4	• Biology • Plants • Animals • Living Things/Habitats • Seasonal Changes • Uses of materials • PSHE



Typical Offsite Visits

On Arrival

You will be greeted by a Ranger who will take you to a designated area or base within the park where you can store packed lunches, bags and coats. The Ranger will then give a short introductory talk including staff introductions, health and safety, behaviour and an explanation of the day.

Outdoor Learning Activities

Half day visit: This session typically lasts 2 hours in the morning or an afternoon and will be tailored to provide adequate time for pupils to complete the chosen activities.

Full day visit: The morning session will typically start at 10.00am and last 2 hours, followed by a lunch break before the final 2 hour afternoon session. Exact times can be arranged to suit.

Departure

On departure from site please ensure all belongings have been collected. We will assist in carrying out final checks before asking teachers for feedback via our electronic survey. Feedback is very important to us, so please take the time to fill it in.



Fairhaven Lake School and Group Visits



Knowledge Grows Where Water Flows

Experience a unique, fascinating outdoor learning experience here at Fairhaven Lake. Nestled between Lytham and St. Annes on the Fylde Coast in Lancashire we are a coastal saltwater lake positioned directly on the River Ribble estuary. We have direct access to sand dunes, saltmarshes and opportunities to uncover the secrets of the Ribble Estuary mud flats and amazing creatures that call it home.

Facilities

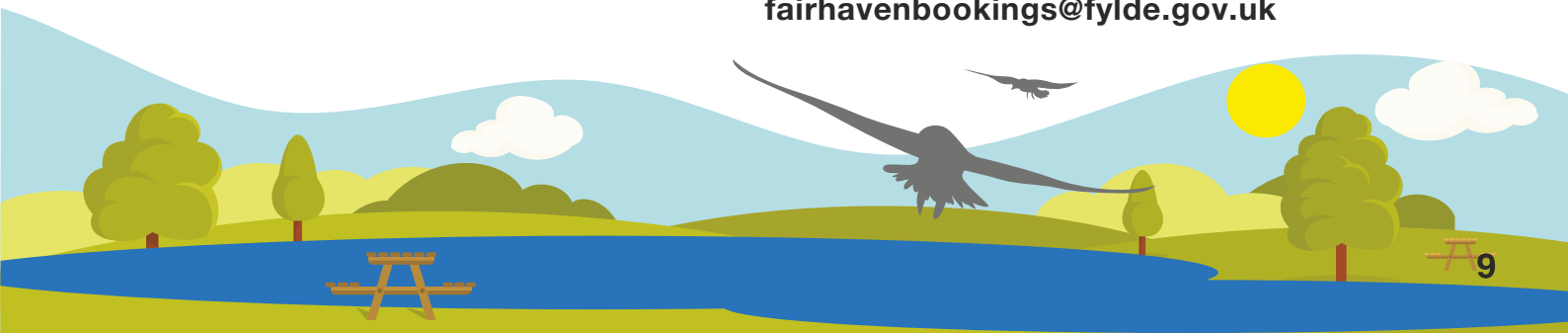
Indoor and outdoor learning spaces, Picnic areas, Storage for lunch/bags, Toilets / Changing Facilities, Accessible toilets / Changing area.

Adventure - Nature - Knowledge

Exciting, diverse and adaptable curriculum linked outdoor sessions available year-round. Engaging hands-on activities to inspire our future generations. Learning that lasts a lifetime, book a fun filled full or half day sessions lead by our experienced and qualified staff. We specialise in providing bespoke fun and exciting sessions to meet National Curriculum outcomes from EYFS to KS4.

We offer great value educational visits that meet your particular learning objectives. These can be combined with a self-led activity trail, outdoor leisure opportunities to keep a fun visit affordable. Contact us for more information on how to plan a memorable day on the Fylde Coast.

For more information or to book a session please call **01253 229154** or email **fairhavenbookings@fylde.gov.uk**



Fairhaven Lake School and Group Visits



Beach and Estuary

- **Going to the Seaside – KS1**
Exploring why people go to the seaside past and present, identify human and physical features. Create beach art using natural materials.
- **Mud Dipping – KS1 and KS2**
Discover what lives beneath the mud on the unique Ribble estuary habitat, learn about the estuary food chain.
- **River Ribble from source to mouth – KS2**
Investigate the river Ribble from source to estuary where it meets the sea. Model a river in sand.
- **Investigating Coasts – KS2**
Use map and fieldwork skills to investigate changes in the landscape features of Fairhaven Lake. Build your own sea defences in the sand.
- **Choose your own –**
Is there a topic you would like to explore outside? Join us at the lake for a Teacher-led or self-guided trip.

Park and Gardens

- **Seasonal Sensory Walks – KS1**
Use all your senses to explore the habitats around Fairhaven Lake and explore the seasons.
- **Investigating Mini Beasts – KS1 and KS2**
Explore the different habitats at Fairhaven Lake. Look for and identify mini beasts using keys and create food chains.
- **Plant Detectives – KS1 and KS2**
Explore the world of plants through a range of activities, the various parts of a plant and how do plants grow.
- **Brilliant Birds – KS1 and KS2**
Identify and observe birds on the lake, discover what makes them special, how they adapt to different habitats
- **Habitats trail – KS2**
Using a map to work your way round Fairhaven Lake investigating living things and their habitats, create food chains, learn about life cycles.



Fairhaven Lake School and Group Visits



Lake and Leisure

- **Rafted Canoes*** – Develop collaboration and teamwork skills, using two canoes joined together, great fun for all ages!
- **Adventure Golf *** – Challenge yourselves with a traditional fun seaside game. Journey your way around the Fylde landmarks.
- **Pond Dipping** – Explore Japanese garden area and see what exciting creatures are living in the lake.

**Additional cost applies*

More...

- **Orienteering** – A fun way to develop teamwork, confidence and spatial awareness combined with map reading and problem-solving.
- **Wing Walk Trail** – Follow the Ribble Revealed series of art works celebrating the local wildlife, enjoy great views of the Ribble Estuary.
- **Adventure Play Parks** – We have 2 play parks, Pirates Cove suitable for younger children and an adventure play park suitable for all ages.
- **Survival Skills** – Outdoor activities that spark creativity, build resilience and teach practical life skills.



Beach School



Learning, Wellbeing and Adventure on the Shoreline

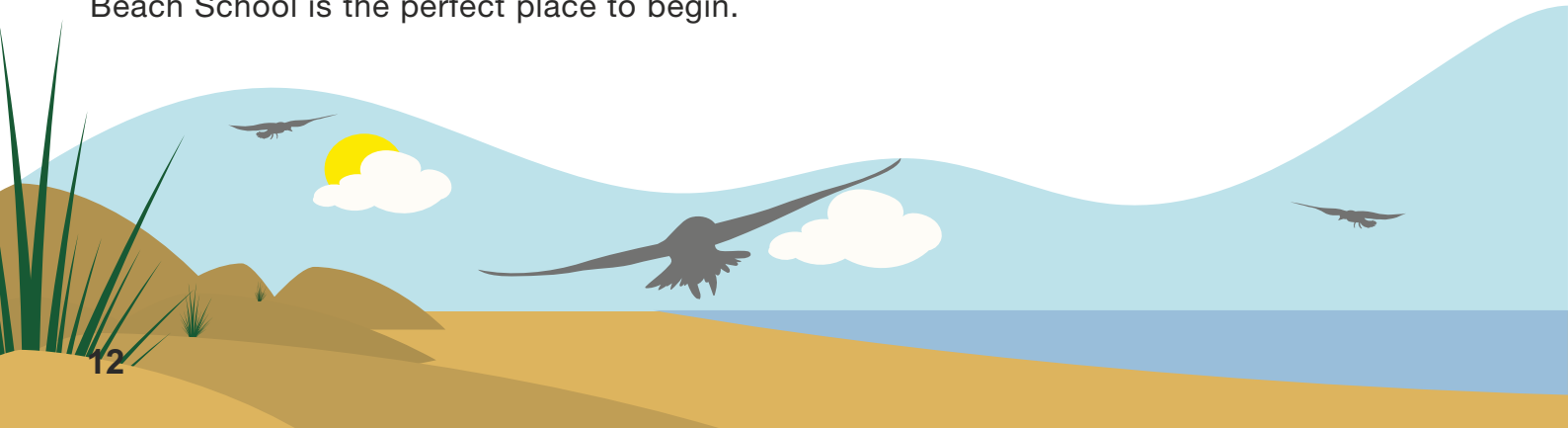
Beach School gives pupils an inspiring way to learn outdoors through curriculum-linked exploration, hands-on discovery and adventure. Delivered by trained practitioners from Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Park View 4 U and Fylde Council, sessions immerse pupils in the living landscape of the coast.

Each visit is designed to support confidence, teamwork, problem-solving and a strong sense of connection to nature. Students explore habitats, investigate wildlife, learn new skills and discover how to care for the marine environment. Alongside curriculum learning, they will benefit from time outdoors that builds resilience, independence and wellbeing.

Activities may include mud dipping, strandline exploration, beach cleans, environmental art, educational games, or orienteering. Whether your priority is Science, Geography, Art, PSHE or experiential outdoor learning, Beach School offers memorable sessions that bring the coast to life.

By working with our specialist outdoor educators, schools benefit from high-quality session planning and delivery, expert guidance and safe, engaging activities that extend learning beyond the classroom. Sessions can be offered as one-off visits or a progressive programme spanning across multiple weeks.

If you want your pupils to explore, discover and develop a love for their local coastline, Beach School is the perfect place to begin.



Beach School

Sessions Offered Through Beach School

Curriculum-linked outdoor learning for curious, confident and creative young learners

Science

Living things, habitats, adaptation, human impact

Living Things & Their Habitats

Explore strandlines, sand dunes and saltmarsh habitats. Investigate what is living, dead or never alive, and learn how animals adapt to their environments. A rich way to deepen pupils' understanding of how living things depend on their habitats and the connections within local ecosystems.

Pressures on the Marine Environment

Discover the impacts of plastic pollution, overfishing and climate change through fun games and activities. Learn how small actions can make a big difference. Ideal for developing pupils' understanding of how human actions influence habitats, the consequences for coastal wildlife, and the steps we can take to protect these environments for a more sustainable future.

Geography

Coastal features, physical and human geography, map skills

Geographical Features of a Coastline

Explore natural and human-made features. Discuss how waves, tides and wind shape

the coastline and how features change over time. A great way for learners to deepen their awareness of physical and human geography and recognise how landscapes evolve.

Understanding Sea Defences

Compare hard and soft engineering approaches. Plan, build and test your own model coastal defence system. Older pupils can explore the decision-making behind coastal management, while younger learners engage through building, experimenting and seeing how their ideas stand up to the waves.

Orienteering & Map Skills

Learn compass directions and map symbols before navigating through coastal habitats to collect clues and observations. Supports the development of confident navigational skills and helps pupils apply map reading in a real outdoor setting.

Beach Safety

Learn how to stay safe at the beach by understanding tide times, beach flags and safety signage. Helps learners build confidence in recognising risks, understanding coastal environments and knowing how to make safe choices outdoors.





Art & Design

Creativity, sculpture, natural materials

Environmental Art

Create artistic pieces using sand, shells, driftwood and other natural materials. Explore patterns, textures and large-scale creative projects. Inspires creative exploration of natural materials and links beautifully with studies of artists who work directly with the landscape, such as Andy Goldsworthy.

Conservation & Community

Citizenship, responsibility, sustainability

Practical Conservation Activities

Take part in beach cleans or dune restoration to help care for the coastline. These sessions are suitable for all groups and can be counted towards award schemes such as the John Muir Award and the Duke of Edinburgh Award for schools choosing to incorporate them.

Personal Development & Wellbeing

Teamwork, emotional literacy, resilience, confidence

Survival Skills – Desert Island Challenge

Using natural materials, work together to build shelters and explore how humans and wildlife adapt to survive outdoors. Encourages learners to think about adaptation and develop teamwork and problem-solving skills in a practical outdoor setting.

Booking Information

For more information or to book sessions, contact **Amy Pennington** via email apennington@lancswt.org.uk.

Alternatively, for more information scan the QR code:





Protecting Our Coast, Inspiring Future Scientists

The Fylde Sand Dunes Project is a partnership between Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Fylde Council and Blackpool Council, funded by the Environment Agency. Together, we protect and restore the dynamic dune system stretching from Blackpool to Lytham - one of the last remaining dune habitats in the North West.

The dunes are far more than a scenic landscape. They act as a natural sea defence, reducing flood risk for coastal communities, and support a rich mosaic of specialised plants and animals. As climate change increases coastal pressures, healthy dunes are essential for strengthening long-term coastal resilience.

Our education programme focuses on fieldwork, ecological surveys and practical conservation work.

Education Sessions

Curriculum-linked coastal fieldwork, ecological surveying and conservation

Science

Habitats, succession, biodiversity, ecological methods

Vegetation Surveys & Plant Identification

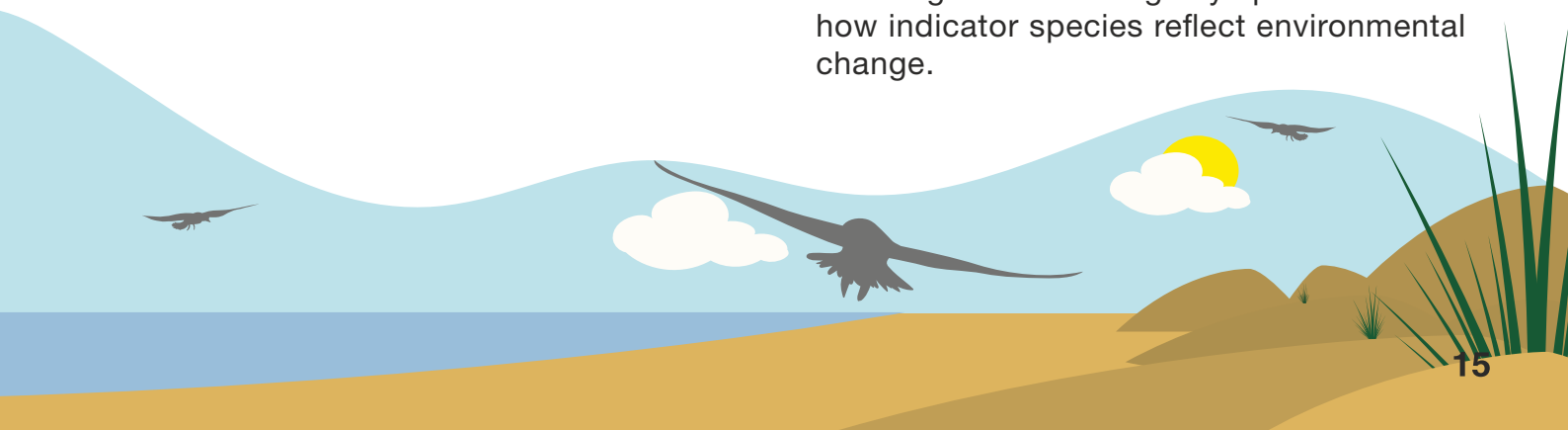
Record plant species and explore adaptations of dune vegetation. Understand how plants anchor and stabilise the dunes.

Dune Succession Transects

Investigate how conditions and biodiversity change from the beach to the inland dunes. Collect real data across a succession gradient.

Butterfly, Moth & Invertebrate Surveys

Follow set transects while identifying, counting and recording key species. Learn how indicator species reflect environmental change.



Fylde Sand Dunes Project



Breeding Bird Surveys

Use visual recognition and bird calls to survey seasonal species. Discuss feeding behaviour, seasonal patterns and migration.

Sand Dune Bioblitz

Carry out an intensive species survey using multiple identification and sampling methods.

Geography

Coastal processes, geomorphology, erosion, climate resilience

Sand Dune Dynamics & Coastal Change

Study dune formation, wind patterns and erosion processes. Discuss how human activity influences coastal change.

Coastal Surveying Techniques

Use survey equipment to investigate coastal landscapes and record accurate field data.

Sea Defence Studies

Explore real examples of soft and hard engineering, including dunes as a natural sea defence. Evaluate sustainability and effectiveness.

Conservation & Citizen Science

Environmental stewardship, practical skills, sustainability

Practical Dune Conservation

Help repair and restore dunes through tasks such as invasive species control, dune grass planting or stabilising blow-outs with natural materials.

Invasive Species Management

Explore why certain species threaten native habitats and how management supports biodiversity.

Citizen Science Surveys

Collect and submit data that contributes directly to local and national monitoring schemes.

Booking Information

For more information or to book sessions, contact **Amy Pennington** via email apennington@lancswt.org.uk.

Alternatively, for more information scan the QR code:



Park View 4U – Outdoor Education and Playing Fields



Explore, Discover, Learn, Play

The Park View 4U Education team are based at THE POD, a purpose built Education and Community Centre at QEII Park View Playing Fields in Lytham.

It is surrounded by woodlands with an exploratory trail, a Forest School outdoor learning zone, Community Vegetable Garden and extensive play areas for all ages and abilities.

What We Offer

- Immerse your EYFS or Primary School group in the outdoors and we can help them to connect with nature and the wildlife around them.
- For Secondary and Further Education students we can provide bespoke outdoor learning sessions to develop their knowledge of their local environment, build confidence, independence and a love of the natural world.

Our qualified team will provide you with a detailed risk assessment of the activity and a co-ordinated lesson plan to fit around your schedule.

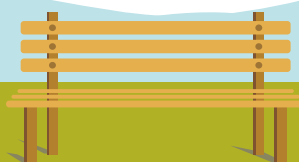
Eco Education

Our education team can deliver bespoke sessions on a wide range of topics including:

Minibeasts – Explore our woodland, meadow and garden habitats to discover the wildlife and learn how invertebrates adapt to survive.

Seeds – Discover our Kitchen Garden, learn how seeds grow, the importance of bees and pollination, fascinating facts about plants and make a recycled planter to take home.

Growing with Nature - Seasonal activities including wildlife friendly planting, harvesting vegetables, fruits, flowers and herbs in our Kitchen Garden, composting and how we use plants for food and medicine.





Eco Education Continued

Stone Age – Ancient methods of fire lighting, campfire cooking, create earth-based pigments and cave art, spear a woolly mammoth and more.

Traditional Tales and Storytelling – Learn about story telling around a campfire. Immerse yourself into a traditional tale using natural materials to recreate the characters, setting and perform your story.

Shelter Building – What do we need to survive? Learn about shelter building techniques and the properties of natural materials to create your own dens in our woodland.

Forest School

Forest School develops the physical, social, cognitive, linguistic and emotional aspects of the learner. It nurtures the child and fosters creative thinking, resilience and independence. It involves regular contact with a site so we recommend booking a minimum of 6 week blocks.

Activities can include the following:

- Shelter Building
- Campfire Cooking
- Fire Lighting Techniques
- Safe Use of Tools
- Observing Seasonal Changes
- Foraging
- Environmental Art
- Knots and Ropes
- Self-led activities and risk benefits
- Identification of Flora and Fauna
- Use of Plants

We can also offer these activities as a bespoke one day session, contact us for more information.



Park View 4U - Outdoor Education and Playing Fields

Nature Connection

Join us in the woodland for some ecotherapy and reconnect with nature. Research shows how mental and physical health can be improved by spending time outdoors, we offer a wide range of activities to help people engage with the natural world.

Activities can include the following:

- Sensory Forest Walk
- Museum of Curiosities
- Environmental Art
- Campfire crafts
- Botanical printing and dyeing

Outdoor Art

Get creative using natural materials with a wide range of art workshops for smaller groups:

- Land art
- Creating natural pigments and charcoal
- Campfire pewter, clay or elder jewellery
- Botanical inks and dyes
- Cordage making
- Print making

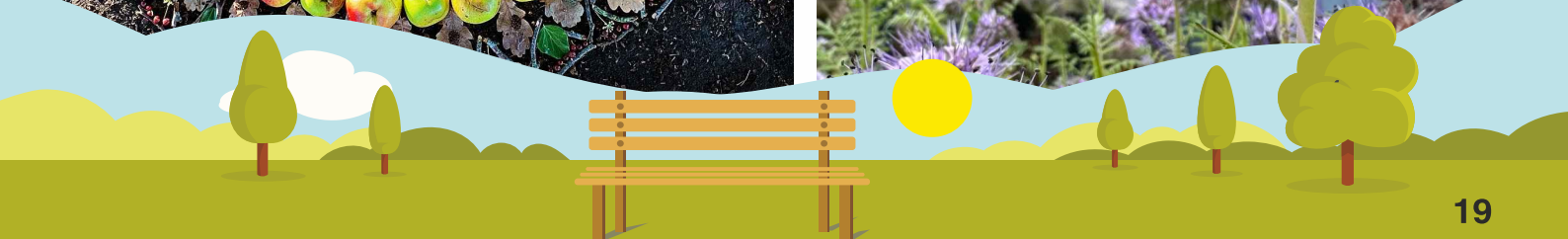
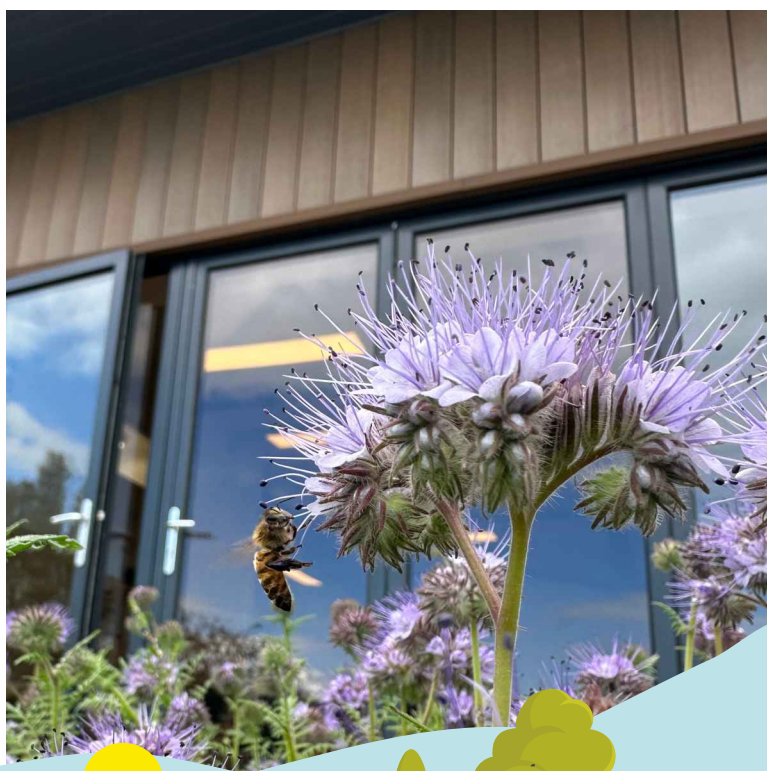
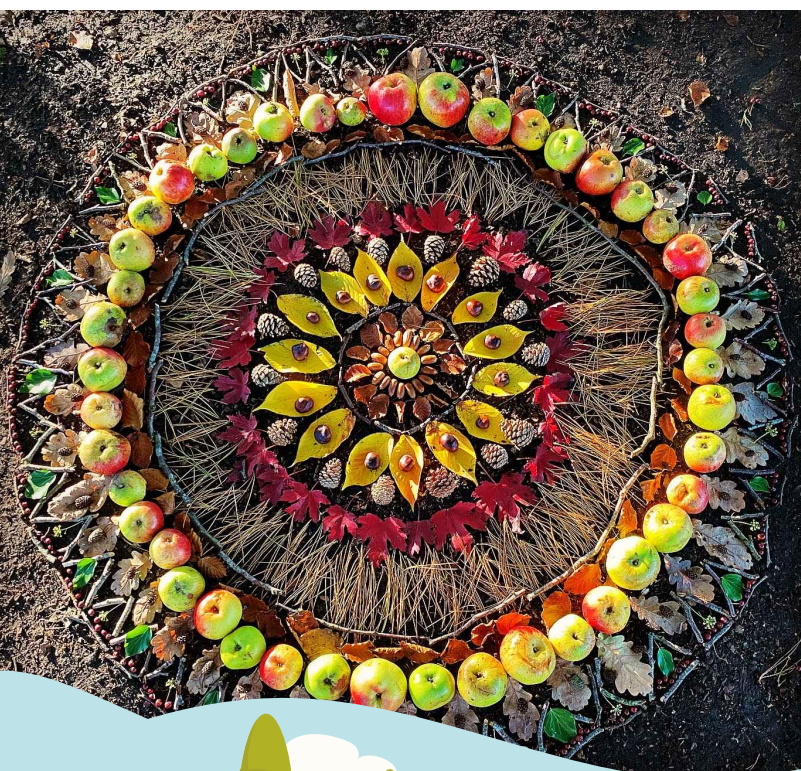
Outreach

We can bring our education sessions to you and inspire your pupils without leaving your site. Help us enhance your curriculum with immersive activities on your school grounds.

CPD Training

We deliver a wide range of CPD training courses, for teachers, outdoor educators, Forest & Beach School leaders. If you wish to develop your skills or gain confidence in using your site for outdoor education, then please contact us.

To book or find out more about any of our activities please contact us on **ecopod@parkview4u.org.uk** or **01253 741955**. Or visit our website for more information:
www.parkview4u.org.uk



Bookings and Contacts

If you are interested in booking exciting environmental education from one of our partners in Fylde, then the step by step guide opposite should help explain the booking process.

Fylde Ranger Service

How to Book the Rangers

If you are interested in Ranger School, either all five workshops or a single session to supplement your current classroom topic, or after school club, then don't hesitate to contact the Rangers on **rangers@fylde.gov.uk**

We can discuss your requirements, number of pupils and whether to be school based or offsite at the park.

Park View 4U

Booking is Easy

Just contact us on **ecopod@parkview4u.org.uk** to discuss your requirements.

We will email a booking form to you. Complete the booking form and return it to us and we will confirm your booking by email.

How to Find Us

QEII Park View Playing Fields,
Park View Road,
Lytham
FY8 4JE

01253 741955

What Can We Do For You?

Think about what it is you want. Which partner? Which topics? Do you want a school visit? Can you travel? How long do you want us for? Any special requirements?



Get in Touch

Once you know who and what you want, contact the relevant organisation using the contact details listed here for an informal chat. Let them know what you want or what you've got in mind.



Make a Booking

Once you are happy with the activities arranged for your school, then the session can be booked into your school diary. Prices will also be discussed at this stage.



Confirmation

Once everything has been finalised, you will receive a confirmation of your booking which you can check and return on the day of the visit. Please check that all details are correct. Inform us of any changes that may occur as soon as possible.

Contact Us

Lancashire Wildlife Trust

To book or find out more about any of our coastal education sessions including; Beach School, the Fylde Sand Dunes, coastal conservation workshops, surveys, coastal walks, talks and presentations, please contact Amy Pennington from Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Email - apennington@lancswt.org.uk

Mobile - 07860 954290

You can also visit our social media page by searching 'Fylde Sand Dunes'. Alternatively please visit:

www.lancswt.org.uk

Fairhaven Lake

For more information about our school and group visits, including prices and how to book, please call **01253 229154** or email **fairhavenbookings@fylde.gov.uk**

How to Find Us

Fairhaven Marine Lake and Gardens
Inner Promenade
Lytham St. Annes
FY8 1BD





The Wildlife Trust for
**Lancashire
Manchester &
North Merseyside**

Park View 4U
Putting the Heart back into Lytham



FAIRHAVEN
**MARINE LAKE
AND GARDENS**



Using our parks & coast
to deliver the national curriculum