


CAMPAIGN for
NATIONAL PARKS


YMGYRCH y
PARCIAU CENEDLAETHOL

NEW PERSPECTIVES FUTURE LEADERS COURSE

Inspiring the next generation of
National Park Change-makers!



APPLICATION INFORMATION PACK

Overview of the course

Who the course is for (20-30-year-olds)

Details of the residential (3-5 September 2025)

Application process



Gwnaed yn bosibl gan

**Cronfa
Treftadaeth**

Made possible with

**Heritage
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.



National Parks in England and Wales

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, aged 20 to 30 (inclusive) years old, who want to make a difference - for National Parks, landscapes, nature and people. The fully funded programme has been developed with young people and focuses on supporting you to advance as a next generation leader and change-maker. Our free experiential course includes:

- PRACTICAL skills, such as storytelling, communications and campaigning;
- 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 awarded a place. Successful applicants will be required to sign the terms & conditions for accepting a place and agree to the course code of conduct to confirm acceptance of the placement.



Future Leaders Course in Dartmoor

THE DETAIL

NOTE: Prior to phase 1 commencing, we will host two online sessions on Tuesday 12 August and Tuesday 26 August to welcome you to the programme and kick-start the course. Full details on page 6.

Phase 1: The residential retreat

The programme kicks off with a residential in Bannau Brycheiniog National Park on Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 September where you will meet your fellow future leaders from across the environmental sector. You will work collaboratively and independently to nurture your leadership core skills and experience, as well as opportunities to socialise with your peers and take part in outdoor activities.

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 is subject to change 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 empower you to communicate your vision. You will develop your very own campaigning calls to action and collaborate on plans to influence change with storytelling & communications at the heart.
4. **Leadership in practice;** an opportunity to present your ideas to inspirational leaders and decision makers from environmental/ National Park organisations.

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 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.



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, see page 10.

The course is open to young people resident in Wales and/or Welsh, 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/neurodivergent, we are particularly interested in receiving your application. Contact us to discuss any additional support you may need to complete your application.



Future Leader Course participants Rich and Bert speaking in the House of Lords at the 2024 National Park Protector Awards

WHEN AND WHERE

We're delighted to take our next our next fully funded, fully catered course to the stunning Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.

Location: Our accommodation for the residential is in the stunning YHA Danyw-nallt, for more information about the facilities please visit their website.

Residential sessions will take place over two venues, the National Park Visitor Centre at Caffi y Fan and Penpont.

Dates & Times:

- Tuesday 8 July 12-1pm and 6-7pm: Online drop-in sessions (optional)
- Tuesday 12 August 6-7pm: Course commences with a virtual welcome orientation where you will meet fellow participants, course leaders and facilitators, and finalise plans for the residential.
- Tuesday 26 August 6-7pm: Virtual Introduction to Campaigning and Influencing workshop.
- Wednesday 3 September 12 noon: Residential starts
- Friday 5 September 2pm OR 4.30pm: Residential ends. Programme sessions end at lunchtime with further activities until approx. 4:40pm for those who can stay – TBC.
- Tuesday 16 September 6-7:30pm: Online workshop
- Tuesday 23 September 6-7:30pm: Online workshop

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

Accessibility

There is level access to and within our residential venues. We will provide transport between venues for the duration of the residential.

For full information on physical accessibility of the residential sites, please refer to information provided on the relevant website. To discuss anything in more detail, please contact us - info@cnp.org.uk or join a drop-in session on Tuesday 8 July.





COST AND EQUIPMENT

The course is completely free of charge thanks to funding from 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/tablet 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. We will arrange pick-ups from the nearest train station. Travel details will be confirmed with successful participants.

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 Danywenallt, of which we have exclusive hire for this course. The hostel has shared dormitories (same-sex) and you will be required to share with a small number of other course members.

Vegetarian catering is provided for the duration of the residential (3 lunches, 2 breakfasts and 2 evening meals). We will provide more catering information for successful participants. Dietary requirements will be obtained as part of the application process.

We will offer a quiet space for contemplation and prayer throughout the residential.

Our stay is in the heart of Bannau Brycheiniog so we'll have lots of outdoor time as well as some quiet time during the busy course.

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/neurodivergent 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.



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.**
- 2. Who is a leader or change-maker who inspires you, and why? Max 250 words**
- 3. 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 13 July 2025.

Any Questions?

Why not join one of our virtual drop-in sessions on Zoom where you can ask the team running the course any questions you have. Book onto a drop-in via the links below.

There are 2 drop-ins scheduled:
8 July 12-1pm. Book your spot [here](#).
8 July 6-7pm. Book your spot [here](#).

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