



Chiltern Rangers CIC Under 18 Volunteer Policy



We aim to make conservation-based volunteering accessible, inclusive and enjoyable for all young people. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child and young person involved in our activities.

For further information about our safeguarding arrangements, please see our Child Protection Policy: chilternrangers.co.uk/our-policies.

1. If the young person/child is in Year 8 or below from 1st September that year, they must be accompanied under the close supervision of an appropriate adult (parent, guardian, carer etc.) for the duration of the session.
2. If the young person is in Years 9-13 from 1st September that year, then they can attend alone but must:
 - Be registered on our volunteer database which gives parental consent, disclosure of medical information, special needs and emergency contact details.
 - Bring a copy of their Under 18 Independent Travel Form to each session.
 - Ensure they sign in with the Lead Ranger and share emergency contact details at every session they attend.

Appropriate and responsible behaviour is essential during our conservation sessions*, as participants may use tools and equipment that could pose a risk of injury if used incorrectly. Young people are expected to follow instructions, use tools and equipment safely, and behave in a way that does not put themselves or others at risk. Where behaviour is considered unsafe or inappropriate, we may ask the young person to leave the session and, where necessary, withdraw permission for them to attend future sessions.

If you are accompanying a young person in Year 8 or below, you are responsible for their safety and wellbeing throughout the session and must provide close supervision at all times.

Please note that this policy applies exclusively to our open conservation sessions. Other programmes, including Rebel Rangers and New Shoots, have their own policies and safeguarding arrangements.

**Young people attending the sessions will need to demonstrate a high level of independence, as rangers will be supporting the wider group and will only be able to provide light-touch support. Where we feel a young person may require additional support to participate safely and meaningfully in the sessions, we will discuss this with their parent/carers. Opportunities for students who require further support might include Rebel Rangers and New Shoots. Or we can invite a parent/carers to attend sessions for a period of time.*