

Nature bytes Nature and Technology Programme Easter 2025

Important Information for Parents and Carers

We are delighted to offer young people in the East Sussex the opportunity to take part in our active wildlife and technology programme. Please read all the important information below.

The programme, run by conservation and education experts, will introduce how to use technology, such as trail cameras and audio devices, to engage with nature in exciting new ways.

Thanks to funding from East Sussex Council, we are offering these places for free to those eligible for free school meals or additional support. <u>Confirm your place and find more information here</u>.

You can also win a **FREE trail camera by referring a friend** - <u>share this link</u> for a chance to win it. (if they give us your name when registering, you'll have a great chance as it'll go to someone signing up for the this programme!).

Each day we will introduce new and fun conservation and citizen science tools followed by walking and exploring the wildlife and highlights of the beautiful nature park. Participants will learn to use specialist apps and tech to get the most out of their nature and outdoor experiences. Attendees are welcome to join for as many days as they can. We recommend attending all four days so you don't miss out, but joining for just one day is great too!

This programme will be delivered by naturebytes CIC, an award-winning education non-profit, and is made available for free to students eligible for free school meals thanks to funding from the HAF programme. Please forward and share this with friends who might be interested. Thanks for your support

IMPORTANT: Please read the information below and contact us if you have any concerns.

Student Requirements

Essential

	☐ Must be mobile and able to walk on uneven ground to explore the nature reserve.
	☐ Must be able to work in teams or be comfortable in a group environment.
	☐ Must be able to follow instructions outdoors without one-to-one support.
[Outdoor wear - waterproof jackets, warm clothes, sturdy trainers or walking boots, sun protection (be prepared for rain, mud, cold weather and sun)
	☐ Water bottle
[☐ Backpack / drawstring bag
Preferable (not essential):	
[Smart phone - FULLY CHARGED - if the student has a smartphone, bring it fully charged for use with nature and outdoor apps. If a smartphone is not available we will use an alternative.



Laptop - and protective case - if your child wants to analyse image, audio recordings and wildlife identification.

Be prepared to be outdoors and physically active - this programme involves hiking and outdoor activities, so we will be active outside in sun or rain. Please make sure your child is able and prepared. Adequate warm and weatherproof clothing, footwear and sun protection if necessary to be comfortable outside for up to 3 hours per day.

Special Educational Needs - If you feel your child might have difficulty following instructions in an outdoor environment, working in a group or your child requires additional support please contact us ASAP to discuss this.

Due to the nature of the programme and health and safety requirements, It is not possible for us to provide regular one to one support or host those individuals who might require considerable support throughout the day. We happily host students with SEND and we are as inclusive and accommodating as possible, but we do not have specialist SEN support or qualifications.

Programme Plan and Logistics

The programme will include:

- Free healthy lunch each day
- Use of trail cameras and audio devices
- Introduction to conservation tech
- Species identification techniques

Programme Details:

Programme Dates:

- 1. Hastings Country Park: Monday 7th Thursday 10th April
- 2. Seven Sisters Country Park: Monday 14th April Thursday 17th April

Session duration: 4 hrs per day Time: 10am-2pm each day

Location and getting there:

- Hastings Country Park The location is at Bale House Visitor Centre & Education Building *note, we will be in the small black building on the opposite side of the road to the main Visitor Centre*
 - The site can be accessed by car or local Bus route '101 Wave'
- 2. **Seven Sisters** The Turkey Barn, Seven Sisters Visitor Centre, Seven Sisters Country Park, Exceat, Seaford BN25 4AD. <u>Seven Sisters 'getting here' page</u>

Project Lead and contact

Stephen Mowat - safeguarding lead, enhanced DBS certificate and first-aid qualified.

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About naturebytes - naturebytes is an award-winning international conservation and education non-profit organisation. Our goal is to reconnect everyone with nature in exciting new ways. Find out more at www.naturebytes.org or contact course leader Stephen Mowat at steve@naturebytes.org