

## The Conservation Learning Department

Placements in our Learning (Education) Department are only available from March until September when the Zoo is at its busiest. Priority for this placement will be given to a student who can commit to a minimum of 3 months placement and a keen interest in Conservation Education. The Learning department is a small close knit and welcoming department consisting of two full time and one part time member of staff, plus volunteers.

### What would you be doing?

- Assisting with formal taught session of local children as well as visiting schools and groups (if that is of interest to the student)
- Helping build and run, fun, engaging, informal education events with the public.
- Carrying out public surveys

The department's new strategy is focussed on enhancing their ability to connect people to nature in both the short term and long term, with the hope that they will encourage others to exhibit pro conservation behaviour in the future. New programmes will give special attention to age groups like teenagers that show decreased connection with nature, as well as young people that already have an interest and are looking to learn more. Students in the department will have the opportunity to be closely involved in

this process, as well as gaining practical experience and an insight into how our conservation focussed zoo-based learning department operate. Students will gain skills in evaluating projects and carrying out surveys as we assess the impact we are having with our activities.



### Would I be good for this placement?

The ideal candidate would be doing/or have completed a relevant degree/diploma in an animal/science/teaching related topic or can demonstrate previous work experience in these areas. They should have keen interest in learning and educating others about conservation and nature. They should have good communication skills and/or be interested in gaining more experience of engaging with members of the public and learning survey skills. The department has a lot of energy and passion for the work they do so they would be looking for a student that would come with the same enthusiasm for engaging with the public.