National conservation education awards 2026

OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION EDUCATOR

Do you know of a member of staff who has found an innovative way to teach conservation that helps pupils understand more about the world around them and take conservation action? Then tell us about it! We're looking for educators who've made children excited about saving the world. **Tell us their story.**

Award criteria: In order to be nominated for Outstanding Conservation Educator we would expect nominated individuals to meet most or all of the following criteria:

- Motivates students to learn and facilitates indepth conservation education learning.
- Develops meaningful and innovative conservation infused curricula.
- Uses novel or innovative teaching methods to communicate conservation issues.
- Uses meaningful methods for evaluating student learning.
- Demonstrates depth of knowledge in and commitment to conservation education.
- Displays a genuine interest in empowering their students to take action for wildlife.
- Displays a genuine interest in students' personal development and wellbeing.
- Takes steps and actions which might include creating wildlife habitats, removing singleuse plastics and using deforestation free commodities.

Nomination process: The processes of nomination or recognition for the Outstanding Conservation Educator award will be made up of a completed nomination form from one or a combination of the following:

- An individual student.
- A class of students.
- A staff member from the school.
- A member of the community.

Completed nomination forms and any supporting evidence should be submitted by email to learning@chesterzoo.org by midnight on Sunday 3rd May 2026.

What we want to see?

Please describe how the nominated individual meets the awards criteria. Talk about the impact the nominee has had on pupils, the community and for conservation. Supporting evidence is great, we love to see pictures and videos. There is no right or wrong way to make a nomination, we want to celebrate all the high quality conservation education that goes on in schools.

Selection process: Nominations will be reviewed by our Chester Zoo Conservation Education and Engagement Team. Representatives for shortlisted nominees will be invited to a celebration evening hosted at Chester Zoo on Wednesday 8th July 2026 where award winners will be revealed.