National conservation education awards 2026

AWARD GUIDANCE

Entry is free open to all UK state and independent schools.
These awards celebrate achievements during the 2024/25 and 2025/26 academic years.

A nomination can be completed and submitted by staff or students in schools or FE colleges, school or college governors or external stakeholders working closely with the school. We encourage nominations from pupils but these should be sponsored by an appropriate adult. All entries should be endorsed by the associated institution or organisation.

There are separate awards in each category for Primary and Secondary schools. For the purpose of these Awards:

- Primary includes those schools, educators and initiatives working with pupils in the 4-11 age range.
- Secondary includes those schools, educators and initiatives with pupils in the 11-18 age range. This also includes any further education provision.

If your entry relates to an initiative carried out in collaboration with other schools or another partner, the submission should come from the lead school and any shortlisting will be in the name of that school. Credit will be given to all partners at the awards ceremony where appropriate.

All nominations must be submitted digitally using the nomination form.
Supporting material such as photos and videos may be submitted, please ensure sufficient consent is obtained for any photos or videos shared. Videos should be no longer than 3 minutes in length.

You can enter as many categories as you wish, but you must complete a separate submission for each.

The closing date for entries is midnight on Sunday 3rd May 2026.

Chester Zoo, at its discretion, may change the award category for which any nomination is made.

The decision of the judging panel is final and no correspondence on this topic will be entered into.

Shortlisted nominees will be invited to a celebration event on **Wednesday 8th July 2026.** Each nominee will be entitled to 2 free tickets to the celebration event with an opportunity to purchase further tickets.

Entry to the National Conservation Education Awards 2026 is deemed acceptance of these terms and conditions.