

Kent FEI Cluster Group



Forest Education
Initiative

Hello!

The Kent FEI Cluster Group is now up and running. We are one of many voluntary cluster groups throughout Britain within the Forest Education Initiative, www.foresteducation.org who's aim is to encourage children, young people and adults to use trees, timber and the woodland environment for learning and gaining traditional skills within the natural environment.

Our Cluster group follows the aim of the FEI "To increase the understanding and appreciation, particularly among young people, of the environmental, educational, social and economic potential of trees, woodlands and forests, and of the link between the tree and the many everyday products."

Contact: Clair Hobson, Cluster Group Chair
Email: info@earthcraftuk.com

We are a new group and our members for this first directory are:

EARTHCRAFTUK COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Based in 300 acres of stunning ancient woodland between Canterbury and Faversham, EarthCraftuk offer professional and unique outdoor woodland programmes and events:

- Forest School programmes
- Forest School Consultancy
- Forest School OCN Accredited Practitioner Training Levels 2 & 3 (from Autumn 2011)
- Forest School CPD for Practitioners
- Bushcraft Accredited Practitioner Training (from Summer 2011)
- Alternative Curriculum tailored events
- Accredited programmes: NCFE & ASDAN
- School visits & camp overs
- Creative woodland learning opportunities
- Study Support & Extended Learning
- Woodland Archery
- 13-19 Youth Engagement Programmes & Days

Contact: Clair Hobson & Scott Woolsgrove
Website: www.earthcraftuk.com
Email: info@earthcraftuk.com



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THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL OUTDOOR EDUCATION UNIT

Supports schools, youth groups and other provision for young people who take part in Learning Outside of the Classroom (LOtC) activities and educational visits. We provide advice, guidance and support as well as managing a residential and adventurous activities notification and approvals system. Part of this role involves ‘vetting’ providers of adventurous activities and residential facilities on behalf of users to meet KCC standards. We provide a broad range Outdoor Learning based INSET/CPD training for schools, youth workers and other staff working with young people. We are also a key point of contact for groups and providers for LOtC activities within Kent.



Contact: Niall Leyden

KCC Outdoor Education Unit Website -

www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/policy/offsite.cfm

Outdoor Learning training brochure for educational staff –

www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/UserFiles/CW/File/Policy/Outdoor_Education/Training/Outdoor_Learning_Training_Course_Brochure_2010_-_2011.pdf



GREENCRAFT

Greencraft is a small company founded on the belief that we all need to get back to our original element – the great outdoors! In a high-tec, high pressure world of giga-bytes and “virtual reality”, we believe there is a need for “actual-reality”. The feel of the sun on your skin, the sound of a gentle breeze blowing through the leaves or the sound of a bubbling brook, are sensations that have been with us for millennia – but are in danger of being smothered by electronic media and man-made alternatives. Greencraft offers outdoor experiences where you can touch, feel and even taste the natural world. Our client base is as diverse as the courses we offer, from multinational corporations (IBM & AVAYA), to universities, schools, the Forestry Commission, the Scout Association, Cadet Forces and private groups and individuals.



Contact: Neil Andrews

Website: www.greencraft.me.uk

Email: neil@greencraft.me.uk



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KENT WILDLIFE TRUST

Kent Wildlife Trust's Blean Project is conserving and managing extensive areas of beautiful Ancient Woodland in the Blean, an area around Canterbury. As part of the education programme, we are working with learners of all ages in the woods and through outreach projects.

- Trainee Warden programme
- Practical conservation tasks – learning through volunteering
- Guided walks – learning on the move
- School groups
- Workshops
- WildArt – environmental art project
- Family activities & events

Contact: Kathryn Barton,
KWT Blean Community Engagement Officer
Phone: 01227 719506
Email: Kathryn.barton@kentwildlife.org.uk

KENT COUNTRY PARKS FOREST SCHOOL

Programmes run from Shorne Woods Country Park for all ages, and Brockhill Country Park for pre-school and Reception aged children. In the near future we will also be running Forest School programmes from Lullingstone Country Park. Our team of Education Rangers also run a wide ranging programme that includes:

- Natural Play
- Sensory Activities
- Habitats
- Art Naturally
- Eco Challenges
- Conservation, sustainability and citizenship
- River Study
- Investigation of the Water Cycle
- Way finding
- Settlements
- 'Make do and Mend' and Life in World War II

INSET programmes are run during the Autumn and Spring to support teaching staff to develop their practice back in their own settings. Team Development Days are also available for groups wanting to spend a day at one of Kent Country Parks.

Contact: Sarah Moy, Sustainable Learning Manager

Website: www.kent.gov.uk/kentcountryparks

Email: kentcountryparkslearning@kent.gov.uk

Phone: 01622 221567



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FOREST SCHOOL DARTFORD

Covering South East England, **Forest School Dartford** is run by Debbie and Annabel, who work for the Temple Hill Trust, a local community development trust that owns the 3.5 acre Enchanted Woodland. Truly a classroom without walls! An approved outdoor education provider, we have all the necessary facilities to make the Forest School experience healthy, safe and something wonderful to remember.

We provide:

- ❖ Tailor-made, curriculum-based Programmes for young people aged 4 to 18 years.
- ❖ Our Programme in your own setting
- ❖ Taster sessions for your staff
- ❖ Advice on the preparation of your own woodlands for Forest School activities
- ❖ A woodland where you can gain experience towards achieving your own Forest School qualification

Contact: Debbie Fryer Email: mail@templehilltrust.org.uk
Phone: 07833 469 485 Website: templehilltrust.org.uk

TERRA PERMA

We are a Kent based social enterprise specialising in the creation of edible landscapes, forest gardens, wildlife areas and sustainable buildings. We run short courses in a wide range of skills from straw bale construction & green roofs to fruit pruning & edible gardening and run long term projects in schools and within communities to develop their local environment sustainably. At the heart of our philosophy is a belief that when people are consulted and engaged in the development of their immediate environment the results are more sustainable. We work with pupils, teachers, parents and the wider community to develop not only the physical element of their surroundings but to provide them with the necessary skills to manage and maintain those areas in the future and to be involved in the building and planting of them here and now.

Contact: Ross Evans
Tel: 01227 832452
Email: info@terra-perma.co.uk



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KENT SAFE SCHOOLS

Supports the educational, social and cultural development of children and young people in Kent through delivering projects and services to children and young people aged 5 - 18, that promote positive physical and emotional wellbeing.

KSS delivers projects around a variety of themes:

- Youth Action Groups**
- Primary intervention groups**
- Peer Mentoring**
- Transitional activities**
- Diversionary activities**
- Anti-bullying activities**
- Restorative practices**
- Schools Drugs Educational Advisory Service**
- Work Based Learning**

KSS are keen to develop our woodland learning strategy actively embracing nature as a learning resource.

Contact: Peter Heckel, KSS County Manager
Tel: 07740 183874
Email: peter.heckel@kent.gov.uk

HOATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eight years ago I joined, a beautiful, small village school in the heart of the countryside. Newly appointed Head Mrs. Andrea Noake, like myself was keen to get the children out of the classroom to expand their knowledge of nature. We formed an after-school Environment Club in 2003 with about a dozen enthusiastic children.

From these small beginnings, 8years on, over half the pupils 4-11 attend club regularly, once a week. Over the years we have successfully built up a wide variety of wildlife, a growing vegetable/fruit garden and various outdoor facilities, to form a fantastic outdoor learning environment used by club and curriculum alike. We received this year our second *Eco-Green Flag* and our second KCC/Kent Wildlife Trust award for *Best School Garden in Kent..* Always looking to extend the children's opportunities we join and support this cluster.

Contact: Georgina Champion
Tel: 01227 860249



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Our other founder members include:

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE & BEHAVIOUR SERVICE

THE BLEAN INITIATIVE

AMICUS HORIZON

GODINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

IGHTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHITFIELD & ASPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

LITTLE OAKS NURSERY

MILLMEAD CHILDREN'S CENTRE, MARGATE



The Kent Cluster Group is new and we welcome new members to help us build a network of people and organizations across Kent, who are all interested in the environmental, social, educational and economic potential of trees, our woodlands and forests.

Contact: Clair Hobson

Email: info@earthcraftuk.com