

NAFSO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT

5 to 7 January 2011

in partnership with

Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service



OPENING DOORS TO LEARNING: Curriculum development in the outdoor classroom

A professional development and training opportunity

Opening the classroom door to explore the potential for curriculum development outdoors offers scope for a wide range of innovative, creative approaches to learning and to raising achievement.

Headteachers, teachers, governors and all who are interested in learning outside the classroom are invited to join this unique professional development event which is being held in Cambridgeshire in January.

Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service (CEES) and the National Association of Field Studies Officers (NAFSO) have joined forces to compile a comprehensive programme comprising quality keynote presentations and a choice of more than 20 different workshops, visits and discussion groups led by experts in their fields.

Delegates may choose to attend a single day, or two days, or all three at a cost of £50 per day including lunch and refreshments. Days 1 and 3 are based at Girton College, Cambridge, and day 2 uses locations around the county, including: Burwell House; Coldham Wind Farm; Donarbon at Waterbeach; Grafham Water Centre; Paxton Pits Nature Reserve; Ramsey Heights Countryside Classroom; Stibbington Centre; and Wisbech Castle and Harbour.

To reserve places at this event and take advantage of this professional development opportunity, the delegate booking form on page 7 should be completed and returned as soon as possible.

Rosie Edwards, Event Director
Head of CEES,
Cambridgeshire County Council

PROGRAMME

DAY 1: 11.30am – 6.30pm, Wednesday 5 January **at Girton College, Cambridge**

- 11.00 – 11.45 Coffee & registration
12.00 **OPENING AND WELCOME**
chaired by NAFSO President, Peter Smith
Chas Matthews, NAFSO Chairman
Bill Graham OBE, Director,
Farming and Countryside Education
Shailesh Vara MP for North West Cambridgeshire
Cllr Martin Curtis, Cambridgeshire County Council
Rosie Edwards, Event Director, Head of CEES
- 1.00 Lunch in the Great Hall
2.00 **Choice of 7 half-day options, see page 2.**
4.30 Tea and market place
5.00 **LESSONS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS STRATEGY**, Dr Jake Reynolds, Head of Wellbeing, Sustainable Development Commission
5.30 **INSPIRATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS**,
Dr Helen Phillips, Chief Executive, Natural England
6.30 Close

DAY 2: 9.30am – 4pm, Thursday 6 January **at various locations around Cambridgeshire** **Choice of 7 full-day options, see pages 4 - 6.**

DAY 3: 9.30am – 1pm, Friday 7 January **at Girton College, Cambridge**

- 9.30 **FIELD STUDIES FOR THE FUTURE**,
Rob Lucas, Director, Field Studies Council
10.00 **Choice of 8 workshops / focus groups, see page 3**, includes coffee
11.20 **QUALITY LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**
Leszek Iwaskow, Her Majesty's Inspector,
National Adviser for Geography
12.00 Panel discussion / questions
12.20 NAFSO professional development event 2012
12.30 Closing address: NAFSO Chairman
12.45 Lunch and departure – packed lunch available

Page 1 of 7

Contact details:

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www.cees.org.uk

HALF DAY OPTIONS, Day 1: Wednesday 5 January, 2 – 4.30pm

7 options are offered, W1 to W7.

For those taking place off-site, location and travel time are given.

W1. A WASTE OF TIME?

Leaders: Nick King & Em Ritchie, Recycling Bus teachers, Cambridgeshire County Council

Come along and play with rubbish! Develop your junk modeling skills and creativity, with models to make and templates and instructions to take away and use. This workshop will demonstrate how the design and technology curriculum can be used to deliver waste management education.

W2. ECO-PRIMARY SCHOOL AND URBAN-RURAL LINKS

Location: Orchard Park Primary School

Travel time: 10 mins

Leader: Jenny Russon, Headteacher, Orchard Park Primary School

Cambridgeshire County Council's Orchard Park Primary School was designed and constructed in 2008 with a wide range of innovative features that demonstrate the Council's commitment to sustainable school buildings. Participants will view the buildings and find out how an environmental ethos has evolved and work on Eco Schools has begun. This includes a link with Swaffham Bulbeck Primary, a rural "green flag" school whose location contrasts markedly with Orchard Park's urban housing estate environment.

W3. GROWING GARDENS FOR SCHOOLS AND CENTRES

Leader: Alison Findlay, Regional Adviser, RHS Campaign for School Gardening

This session will include ideas for gardening activities at Centres, supporting the RHS Campaign for School Gardening. Top crops, garden maintenance and activities for each season will be covered, along with risk assessment and a chance to try out some practical activities.

W4. INTERPRETING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH ART

Leader: Becky Aston, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

This will be a practical workshop which will demonstrate how, with minimal artistic skill and minimal equipment, it is possible to record and interpret the natural environment using a variety of media and techniques, including: printing; wool winding; batik; weaving; photograms; mosaics and clay. Activities will support the art and design curriculum and will be suitable for use at ks1 and 2 in schools or Centres.

W5. IT IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Leader: Helen Johnston, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council, & Wild Knowledge

Hand-held smart phones using Wild Knowledge are being used at Stibbington Centre for an increasingly wide range of field work applications with key stage 2. Delegates will be able to try out the technology in the grounds of Girton. There will also be an opportunity to use electronic response systems and review the considerable scope for using them at Centres.

W6. "IT'S NOT JUST A MUSEUM, IT'S THE WHOLE WORLD!"

Location: The Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences

Travel time: 15 mins

Leader: Annette Shelford, Education Officer, Sedgwick Museum

The Sedgwick Museum is the oldest of the Cambridge University museums. It has an internationally important collection of rocks, minerals and fossils. Annette will share her experiences of working with primary and secondary teachers to develop cross-curricular resources and activities that utilise the wealth of opportunities the curriculum offers to Learning Outside the Classroom providers, whilst making the most of the Museum's collections, exhibitions and facilities. From literacy to RE to PE - and of course science - everything is possible!

W7. LEARNING FROM PLANTS AT CAMBRIDGE BOTANIC GARDENS

Location: Botanic Gardens

Travel time: 15 mins

Leader: Dr Karen van Oostrum, Head of Education, CUBG

Join the Cambridge University Botanic Garden education team for an introduction to their school visits programme and an afternoon of plant-focussed exploration: enjoy an observational walk through the Garden and collect plant materials to take away; visit the glasshouses to learn about plant specialisations for survival in different environments; and spend some time in the Schools' Garden learning how to make newspaper plant pots and sowing seeds.

WORKSHOPS / FOCUS GROUPS, Day 3: Friday 7 January, 10.00 – 11.20am

8 options are offered, F1 to F8

F1. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Leader: Nicky Ayscough, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

This Cambridgeshire County Council project aims to support schools in reducing their carbon emissions. Working through the DfE's National Framework for Sustainable Schools, CEES has encouraged schools to save energy using workshops for pupils, training for staff and governors, and the Energy Works programme of educational visits at Coldham Wind Farm. The session will discuss the different teaching and learning methods used and the positive effects to date.

F2. DIVERSITY IN OUTDOOR LEARNING

Leader: Drew Wilkins, Traveller Education Team, Cambridgeshire Race Equality and Diversity Service, Cambridgeshire County Council

This session will explore ways to promote an understanding and appreciation of diversity through the curriculum and strategies for engaging all in learning outside the classroom. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture and heritage will be used as a case study with the focus on ways to encourage Traveller families and children to participate in learning outside the classroom as well as increase awareness of Traveller culture among other participating groups. A practical activity will consist of making a traditional shelter called a bender tent.

F3. LITERACY AND NUMERACY – PRIORITIES AT PRIMARY

Leader: Rosie Edwards, Head of CEES and Hazel Lambert, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

Whatever the future may hold for the curriculum in Primary Schools, literacy and numeracy are sure to remain top priorities. This session will review opportunities for taking literacy and numeracy lessons outside the classroom and consider progression in learning activities that support English and Maths in the environment at key stages 1 and 2.

F4. MANAGING RISK IN OUTDOOR SETTINGS

Leader: Stephen Brown, Outdoor Education Adviser, Cambridgeshire County Council

This session will explore the approach to managing risk used in the English Outdoor Council's "Nothing Ventured". It will demonstrate how risk benefit assessment can be put into action and will allow delegates to understand the fresh thinking involved and how the approach works in practice

F5. MUSIC AND STORYTELLING IN THE OUTDOORS

Leader: tbc, Cambridgeshire Music, Cambridgeshire County Council

Explore the communication of storytelling through Indonesian Gamelan. Develop the playing skills and understand the context of the music in the community life and environment of an Indonesian village. Develop understanding of pattern, teamwork and listening skills to enable playing and creation of musical ideas.

F6. 'SPECIAL' INCLUSION

Leaders: Steve Taverner and Helen Parry, Field Study Tutors at Medina Valley Centre for Environmental and Outdoor Education

Is 'inclusion' in outdoor learning realistic with children who have severe emotional, social or behavioural (ESB) difficulties? This is not a 'how to' session but an opportunity for anyone with an interest in working with such groups to share their experiences and ideas, from planning and managing activities to evaluating learning. Examples cited will be from Medina Valley Centre's experiences with The Harbour School, Cambridgeshire.

F7. SPIRITUALITY IN OUTDOOR LEARNING

Leader: tbc

Children and young people are frequently and deeply moved by experiences in nature which impact emotionally and which may be beyond their comprehension. Spirituality is much misunderstood and while in the National Curriculum, presents a challenge to teachers and leaders in how to approach this important dimension in and through out-of-classroom learning.

F8. WASTED OPPORTUNITIES?

Leaders: Nick King & Em Ritchie, Recycling Bus teachers, Cambridgeshire County Council

For those who have missed the opportunity to be inspired by Cambridgeshire's recycling buses during their options on Wednesday or Thursday, this is a chance to look at the imaginative displays of junk sculptures on the recycling buses and take away ideas for creating similarly eye catching exhibits from re-used materials.

FULL DAY OPTIONS, Day 2: Thursday 6 January, 9.30 – 4.00

7 options are offered, T1 to T7

T1. AN URBAN LEARNING EXPERIENCE: WISBECH PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Location: Wisbech Castle and harbour

Leaders: Richard Green, CEES teacher and Geoff Wilkinson, Wisbech Castle Manager, Cambridgeshire County Council; Peter Harvey, Harbour Master, Fenland District Council

This option will investigate how urban spaces and buildings can be used as learning environments and will include visits to Wisbech Castle, the town centre and the regeneration area around the harbour.

The Georgian market town of Wisbech has roots much farther back in time. Although the Norman castle no longer exists, it gives its name to the Regency villa on the same site. Delegates will find out about recent archaeological work at Wisbech Castle and the involvement of local pupils and the wider community. The building also has a Victorian kitchen, scullery and parlour which are used by CEES for Victorian re-enactment days for KS1 and 2 pupils. The old Pump Room and lovely garden are now used for environmental activities, some of which explore the surrounding urban area.

Despite its grand buildings, Wisbech has a very high deprivation index. This is being addressed partly through a regeneration project around the harbour area. Delegates will see the flagship award-winning Boathouse building with its energy saving features and will look at how plans for the area have been used to stimulate learning activities from KS2 to A level.

T2. FENLAND LANDSCAPE, WILDLIFE AND HERITAGE

Location: Ramsey Heights Countryside Classroom and Woodwalton Fen

Leader: Louise Rackham, The Great Fen Education and Community Manager, The Wildlife Trust

This option will take delegates across the unique landscape of the Fens. The first visit will be to the Wildlife Trust's Ramsey Heights Countryside Classroom which is the education centre for the Great Fen. During the day delegates will see how the Great Fen Education and Community team is bringing together wildlife and heritage in their new "Time Travellers" programme, with a cross curricular approach covering aspects of KS2 history, geography and science. Delegates will meet characters from the past who help children learn about the effect of fen drainage on local people.

Moving on to the fen landscape of nearby Woodwalton Fen, the group will visit the Holme Post which charts loss of peat since the fens were drained, and they will find out how the Great Fen will affect the area in the future when it links the two national nature reserves, Woodwalton Fen and Holme Fen to create a 3,700 hectare area for wildlife and people.

T3. LAKESIDE LEARNING

Location: Grafham Water Centre & Paxton Pits Nature Reserve

Leaders: Ian Downing, Head of Grafham Water Centre & Debbie McKenzie, Education Manager, Paxton Pits, The Wildlife Trust BCNP

The morning will be spent at Cambridgeshire County Council's Grafham Water Centre. Situated on the southern shore of the lake, this recently extended and refurbished residential centre provides land and water based activities for schools. Participants will share ideas for field work afloat (from a floating position!) and will also try their hand at problem solving and team building activities on dry land.

After lunch the group will go to the nearby Paxton Pits, a Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve with a new environmental education centre. During the session there will be a guided tour of the site, created as a result of gravel extraction, and a chance to discover more about the imaginative learning programmes offered by the Wildlife Trust BCNP in partnership with Huntingdonshire District Council and The Friends of Paxton Pits Nature Reserve.

T4. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY EDUCATION IN FENLAND

Location: CEES Coldham Wind Farm Education Centre & local schools

Leaders: Nicky Ayscough, CEES teacher; Fiona McCallum, Headteacher, Elm Primary School; Martin Field, Teacher, Neale Wade College, Cambridgeshire County Council

This option will include a visit to one of several wind farms in Fenland, an area which now generates sufficient electricity from wind to supply its population. Coldham Wind Farm is used as a base for CEES' Energy Works education programme, which aims to give visiting pupils real life experiences of renewable energy. Delegates will look at learning materials that have been developed for the site and find out how progression is ensured from ks2 to A level. Delegates will get close to a working wind turbine and consider its impacts on the local environment. Mini versions of wind turbines and solar panels are used in workshops with students and these will be available for delegates to investigate.

After lunch, the group will travel to nearby Elm Primary School to see solar PV cells and a 5KW wind turbine which are installed on site, and to learn about the impact of renewable energy on pupils' learning. Moving to the local secondary school, Neale Wade, delegates will find out about students' work on energy, recycling, garden plots and environmental volunteering, plus their dedicated Sustainability group whose input has contributed to designs for their new school which is part of the Building Schools for the Future project.

T5. SUPPORTING LEARNING AT BURWELL HOUSE

Location: Burwell House

Leaders: James Dawkins, Head of Centre and Faye Brickel, Deputy Head of Centre, Burwell House, Cambridgeshire County Council

Burwell House is a Cambridgeshire County Council-owned residential study and conference Centre, catering for up to 55 children. The Centre makes extensive use of its geographical position within a large village on the edge of the Fens, and of the large 18th Century House with 3 acre garden. Being a non-profit making and non-subsidised establishment, making maximum use of the facility is crucial, and Burwell House is very successful in doing so, with 93% of term time nights full in 2009/2010 and a wide variety of weekend and holiday users.

During the day, delegates will have opportunities to tour the house and grounds and quiz the team on everything from bunk bed suppliers, to dining room systems and pricing structures, in fact anything that contributes to making Burwell House work.

Some of the more popular activities for key stages 1 and 2 will be demonstrated and discussed, including:

- the very popular **mapwork and orienteering** activities. Teaching techniques and equipment will be explored and delegates will complete a variety of challenges in the house and grounds
- Using the portrait which hangs above the fireplace as a starting point, delegates will explore the **Victorian past** of the Centre through a cross-curricular investigation, using census returns, family trees and artefacts.
- Low level, cheaply resourced **team activities** are well used by Centre visitors. Participants will be able to share the Burwell team's ideas and bring their own.

T6. WHAT A WASTE!

Location: Donarbon, Waterbeach

**Leaders: Nick King & Em Ritchie, Recycling Bus teachers, Cambridgeshire County Council
Karen Brenchley, Education Manager, Donarbon**

This programme will share approaches to waste management education at the Donarbon Waste Management Park's Education Centre, and will feature Cambridgeshire County Council's inspirational Recycling Buses

Session 1: Our landscape: waste not, want not, where to settle and why?

Based in the Recycling Bus, participants will take responsibility for the development and shaping of a settlement from the times of the Dinosaurs and Stone Age man through to the 21st century, and they will consider the environmental issues we now face. The group will then develop a 3D settlement using reclaimed models, and be prepared to justify their decisions throughout history.

Session 2: Cradle to Cradle – waste minimization and management

Experience Cambridgeshire's state of the art Mechanical Biological Treatment Plant, transfer station, landfill and composting halls. Understand the processes, purpose and practice of waste management for our future.

T7 a - d. LEARNING THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENT AT STIBBINGTON CENTRE

Location: CEES Stibbington Centre and sites nearby

NB Two separate option groups can be accommodated at Stibbington, so if choosing this option please indicate your preferences on the booking form eg T7, b and c

The day will be based at CEES' main base, Cambridgeshire County Council's Stibbington Centre, a "green flag" Eco Centre and one of the first Growing Centres in the DfE's Growing Schools programme. The day will focus on using the Environmental Education Centre and nearby sites of interest to support the curriculum from Foundation stage to key stage 3, specifically geography, history, science and cross-curricular literacy and language development. A choice of two options is offered for the morning and another two for the afternoon sessions. At lunchtime all participants will have an opportunity to explore the facilities and learning resources in the Victorian Day Centre and the modern purpose-built and recently refurbished Residential Centre. In the imaginatively-designed Centre grounds, Stanley and Stella will direct delegates to features such as the Garden Gang's veg plots, solar and wind power installations, the new giant (the BSG) and the old plesiosaur (Percy).

Morning options, either:

a. RIVERS AND RUN-OFF REVISITED

Leader: Caroline Worth, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

One of Stibbington Centre's more popular day course themes attracts classes from year 3 to year 8, so the learning outcomes, programme content and fieldwork and data collection skills have been developed to ensure progression. Delegates will be able to try out sand tray, erosion and run-off models at the Centre and will look at a range of field work activities at the River Nene and a nearby stream.

or

b. EVACUATION DAY

Leader: Brian Hutchings, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

You're sitting on the train anxiously listening to the teacher who's going to be looking after you here in the countryside for the duration of the war. You learn about collecting scrap metal and helping the farmer in the fields as you walk through the village to your new school. You complete an ID card and learn your gas mask drill. You write a postcard home to Mum in London, but before you can finish it the air raid siren sounds the alarm. Will you survive in the air raid shelter as bombs rain down all around? Join this option to find out!

Afternoon options, either:

c. GEOLOGY ROCKS

Leader: Eddie McDonnell, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

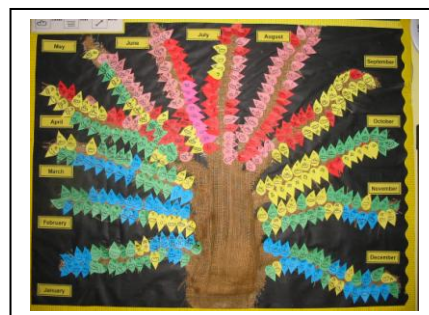
Supporting the science curriculum at key stage 2, this workshop will share ideas for teaching and learning about rocks. Activities will include rock testing, rock cooking and kung fu rocks, together with a visit to a nearby disused quarry for fossil hunting and soil making. The Centre's on-site geological time tunnel and its rock garden with real 150 million year old plesiosaur fossil will also be used. By the end of the session participants might agree with the child who exclaimed at the end of a Rocks Day, "I used to think that rocks were boring. Now I think they're AWESOME!"

or

d. IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY . . . BEWARE OF THE GRUFFALO!

Leader: Deb Laurie, CEES teacher, Cambridgeshire County Council

Follow the exciting adventures of a little wood mouse in its endeavours to stay away from the jaws of a terrifying Gruffalo. This programme of imaginative learning activities has been designed for KS1 and Foundation Stage children involving cross curricular themes. The setting for these activities will be the nearby ancient woodland of Sulehay Forest Nature Reserve.



NAFSO Professional Development Event 2011

in partnership with Cambridgeshire Environmental Education Service

OPENING DOORS TO LEARNING 5, 6 and 7 January

DELEGATE BOOKING FORM

A. Delegate details

First Name:	Last name:
Job title:	
School/place of work:	
Address:	
Postcode:	Tel:

Personal email address – please print clearly as this will be used in all correspondence:

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I am happy for my e-mail address to be made available to other delegates

Y	N
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Please note below any special dietary, mobility or other requirements that you may have:

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B. Choice of day(s) and options – See programme.

Please indicate choice of day(s) at £50 per day including lunch and refreshments, and give 1 st and 2 nd choice of options.	Tick day(s)	Options: 1st choice	Options: 2nd choice
Wednesday 5 January, 11.30 – 6.30, inc options W1 to W7			
Thursday 6 January, 9.30 – 4.00, inc options T1 to T7a - d			
Friday 7 January, 9.30 – 1.30, inc options F1 to F8			

C. Payment details

Amount payable at £50 per day = £

I enclose a cheque payable to Cambridgeshire County Council marked NAFSO on the reverse	
Or please invoice me for the full amount. Either, an official order is attached, or quote ref . .	
Invoice address (if different from that above)	

Please send this completed booking form with an official order or cheque payable to

Cambridgeshire County Council, to: NAFSO Professional Development Event 2011, CEES Stibbington Centre, Church Lane, Stibbington, Peterborough, PE8 6LP

Tel 01780 782386

Fax 01780 783835

Email: cees.stibbington@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cancellations received by 30 November will be refunded in full. Cancellations received after 30 November will be subject to payment in full. Closing date for applications: **Thurs 2 December**

D. Final confirmation

Page 7 of 7

Signed	Date
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