

WORK PLACEMENTS: INFORMATION FOR PROVIDERS

Working outdoors is in. The Rural Skills Hub has funding to support 5 young people (aged 16-24) through a 6-month paid work placement in dry stone walling or hedgelaying. We are looking for professional hedgelayers and dry stone wallers to host these placements, including helping the young people gain accreditation up to Level 1 (Initial) in Dry Stone Walling or Bronze (Competent) in Hedgelaying. We can provide up to £3000 funding per placement.

What's on offer?

- £3000 funding towards delivery of a 6-month paid work placement in dry stone walling or hedgelaying.
- The opportunity to support an enthusiastic young person who wants to start a career in dry stone walling or hedgelaying.
- Support with the recruitment process (e.g. matching with candidates, promoting opportunities on social media, electronic flyers, organising interviews).
- Level 1 qualification provided for your trainee by the Dry Stone Walling Association or the National Hedgelaying Society, at no additional cost.

What we ask of you:

- Funding must be put towards wages at National Minimum Wage (including employer's National Insurance contributions and pension costs), training, start-up costs, and essential PPE for your trainee. They can be asked to provide their own basic outdoor clothing.
- We can provide £3000 funding per role; some financial input may be required from yourself in order to cover all costs.
- The role must have been created solely for the Rural Skills Hub placement scheme, not replacing any existing employees (including redundant and furloughed employees).
- Support and guide the young person, who may have no experience in dry stone walling or hedgelaying, in all aspects of the job including health & safety, business management, working with customers.
- Help the young person to complete a record of the work carried out and build a portfolio of their work, to consolidate and evidence their learning.
- The placement must be delivered in England.
- All funding is provided by the [Green Recovery Challenge Fund](#). This scheme focuses on environmental renewal. Trainees must be taught their chosen craft in a way which promotes nature recovery, habitat creation, and sustainability.
- Keep in touch with the Rural Skills Hub throughout the placement as required, sending regular updates about the progress of your trainee for monitoring purposes.

If you can host a placement, contact Carrie (Rural Skills Hub Co-ordinator) at info@ruralskillshub.org.uk for a discussion about the role and requirements.