



Otterpool Park

Learning Programme 2023

FREE WORKSHOPS!

A guide to free educational events and activities for students from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 5



OTTERPOOL PARK
COUNTRYSIDE · CONNECTED · CREATIVE

www.otterpoolpark.org

Welcome

Welcome to Otterpool Park's first Learning Programme, which brings together our full range of events and activities for schools and education providers.

We are committed to working with the community to deliver an engaging, rewarding and enjoyable experience of Otterpool Park, before even the first tree is planted or brick laid at the new garden town.

Otterpool Park will be home eventually to up to eight primary schools and two secondary schools and our 2023 learning programme runs alongside an ambitious education project to develop the first school, providing school places in the early phases of the development.

We have strong vision around Otterpool Park being a distinctive place where health and wellbeing, the environment, culture and creativity are valued, and these themes run through our learning programme.

From heritage and sustainability to story writing and architecture, our events and activities are suitable for primary and secondary schools and will be delivered by specialist practitioners.

These high-quality enrichment activities support the curriculum and the Gatsby benchmarks for careers education and provide opportunities for students to have space and time outside of the classroom to discover, experiment, learn, play, interact, inquire and develop their confidence.



About Otterpool Park

We are creating a new garden town in Kent, a place where people can lead a healthy, active and sustainable lifestyle in a creative, inclusive and vibrant community.

Otterpool Park is set in the countryside around the beautiful and historic Westenhanger Castle and our plans have been designed with a landscape-led

approach, sensitive to local context and appropriate to local character with the local landscape.

Otterpool Park has an excellent location; it is close to the Kent coast and towns of Folkestone and Hythe, and London is in easy reach from nearby Westenhanger station that will serve Otterpool Park.

How to access our Learning Programme

To help you choose which activities are most suitable for your school, we have clearly identified sessions by subject area, age and date in this guide.

All the workshops and activities in this programme are fully funded but are subject to availability, please express your interest to our team as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

We are aware that barriers such as travel and cover costs can sometimes make it hard to access external activities, so please contact us to discuss how we might be able to support you. Sessions may be able to be adapted and we may be able to assist with transport or connect you to partner organisations that could help.

We are also always keen to listen to ideas and grateful for your feedback on ways we can support you in your work to deliver the curriculum as we develop our Learning Programme for the 2023 / 24 academic year.

Contact Tamasin Jarrett
Community Services & Events Manager
community@otterpoolpark.org

Learning Programme Key	
Subject	Venue
Age	Number of Students
Date	Gatsby Benchmarks
Duration	

Short Story Writing Competition

ENGLISH, HISTORY, CITIZENSHIP
KS2 & KS3
8TH JAN 2023

The **Otterpool Park Short Story Writing Competition** is now open for entries. We invite children and young people aged between 8 – 14yrs to take part in our story writing competition using one of the following prompts on which to base an up to 500-word story:

- Queen Elizabeth I discovers a ghost at Westenhanger Castle
- A forgotten item is found in the Tower at Westenhanger Castle
- It's 1542 and the sun rises on Westenhanger Castle

Winner of the first prize will have their story performed by professional storytelling artist Emily Hanna-Grazebrook during National Story Telling Week in February 2023 at Westenhanger Castle. All three winners will receive a storytelling coaching session from Emily.

The deadline for receipt of all entries is **Sunday 8th January 2023** at **midday**.



★ Prizes		
1 st Prize £100 Voucher	2 nd Prize £50 Voucher	3 rd Prize £25 Voucher
All entries will receive a writing set		

How to enter	Download an entry form and find out how to enter at www.otterpoolpark.org
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National Story Telling Week

Storytelling is one of the oldest forms of entertainment and has a unique power as the audience is able to interpret the story in their own way through the power of imagination. National Storytelling Week is a celebration of storytelling and is used to fire up imaginations and encourage people to tell their own stories.

This year Emily Hanna-Grazebrook from Dragonfly Tales will be coming to Westenhanger Castle as a performance storyteller to captivate students through three different stories for you to choose from:

9.30AM - 10.45AM

Mossy Coat: a sweet and comical version of Cinderella with a nature twist.

11.15AM - 12.30PM

Talking Trees: a magical interactive tale that takes us deep into the forest and reminds us of our responsibility to nature.

13.00PM - 14.15PM

The Starfish: a quest and deadly game of hide and seek!

ENGLISH, STEM, CITIZENSHIP
KS2
3RD FEBRUARY 2023
75 MINS
40 STUDENTS
WESTENHANGER CASTLE

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Apprenticeships and the Built Environment



Do your students have all the facts to decide on their transition pathways? This session, which takes place during National Apprenticeship Week, is designed to outline the options available: University, College, and Apprenticeships all through the lens of the Built Environment sector.

We will provide an interactive and informative session explaining the development of standard apprenticeships, what they are and how to access them highlighting traditional and non-traditional opportunities. Students will also get the chance to ask questions of current or former apprentices to gain a valuable insight into real world experiences. We aim for this session to give students an overview of the pathways available and an in-depth understanding of apprenticeships.

STEM, CAREERS
KS4 & KS5
6TH - 10TH FEBRUARY 2023
1.5 HOURS
30 STUDENTS
DELIVERED IN YOUR SCHOOL
GATSBY 2,3,5

Supported by



Visioning a Virtual World

We are working with Screen South to deliver this exciting series of six workshops for a select group of secondary school students to develop their own immersive world.

Students will develop their own story of Otterpool Park in VR using real-time 3D creation tool Unreal Engine. They will be guided in planning and creating their story in a virtual world over a six-week period.

They will learn and use digital skills in 360 camera site capture, LiDAR scanning manipulation, sound, camera, and animation.

Screen South will provide cutting edge training in Unreal Engine software including basic screen background skills and manipulation of assets.



STEM, MEDIA, ART, CITIZENSHIP, PSHE, DIGITAL / IT
KS3
5.5 HOURS (6 SESSIONS)
16 STUDENTS
GATSBY 4,5,6
SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB, FOLKESTONE & OTTERPOOL PARK



Session 1 Introduction to Course and overview of all elements

Date	FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

Students will gain an insight into what Unreal Engine, LiDAR scanning and 360 filming can do in terms of telling a story through Design, Animation, sound and creative asset manipulation.

Session 2 Shooting the 360 environments

Date	FRIDAY 3RD MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	OTTERPOOL PARK

Students will learn how to capture footage on a 360 camera as well broadcast level camera which they can use in their VR & Interactive projects. They will also record sound around the site and compile an audio picture of the site.

Students will upload and review their rushes to start cementing ideas about embedding footage into their stories.

Session 3 Setting up your Otterpool Park Stories

Date	FRIDAY 10TH MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

The students will be introduced to Unreal Engine with a focus on getting to grips with the fundamental user interface and controls setting the framework for their visual story. They will also be building the list of assets that they need for their scene using ready made content from the Unreal Engine and the research assets available from the Otterpool Park team.

Session 4 Creating your Otterpool Park story in Unreal

Date	FRIDAY 17TH MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

The students will be reviewing and revising what they learnt in the previous sessions along with learning to import their own custom content and assets into unreal engine and setting up textures/materials accordingly with a focus on optimisation for their Otterpool Park stories plans and presentation.

Session 5 Enhancing your Otterpool Park story in Unreal

Date	FRIDAY 24TH MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

In this session the students will be introduced to the presentation enhancement elements of Unreal and immersing your creative animation world into an edit for screening. They will also be introduced to sound and camera in preparation for the next session shoot and create a production plan.

Session 6 (Optional)

Date	SATURDAY 25TH MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

An optional day for participants to complete their work.

Session 7 Showcase

Date	FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 2023
Time	9.30AM - 3PM SHOWCASE 5.30PM - 7PM
Location	SCREEN SOUTH DIGITAL HUB

This session see works developed come to completion. They will learn how to lay off a project and create the presentation file.

Evening showcase for the students to present their work to an invited audience.



Renewable Energy Workshops



We hear about solar and wind power as sources of renewable energy, but how can we capture and then store the energy these sources produce?

In this hands-on workshop, which takes place during British Science Week, students will be introduced to the physics of photovoltaic cells, generators, capacitors and batteries.



- SCIENCE (PHYSICS), CAREERS
- KS3
- 13TH - 17TH MARCH 2023
- 1.5 HOURS
- 30 STUDENTS
- DELIVERED IN YOUR SCHOOL
- GATSBY 4

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 Astin Consulting

Mapping Concepts

With artist Karen Rann

Visual artist Karen Rann will lead this three-hour introduction to mapping concepts and mapping where we live. Students will learn and participate through teamwork, creative making and questions and discussion to develop their creative thinking, coordination, observation skills and vocabulary.

The sessions will cover:

- maths in terms of scale, proportion and geometry
- human geography, exploring previous uses of land through engagement with historical maps
- historical geography and geology, as 150 years ago contoured models were used to demonstrate the effects of processes such as flooding events

All the materials used in these sessions will have low/no environmental costs.

	MATHS, GEOGRAPHY, SCIENCE, ART, CAREERS
	KS2
	24TH - 28TH APRIL 2023
	3 HOURS
	30 STUDENTS
	DELIVERED IN YOUR SCHOOL
	GATSBY 4,5



Using LiDAR, historical maps and future plans of the area around the students' school and Otterpool Park, the workshop will look at past and current uses and appearance of the land.

Karen will introduce to the students how representations of buildings and roads change according to scale, and how hills and valleys have been represented on maps, including contour lines. Models will be used to demonstrate contours.

Practical activities will include using damp sand in trays to craft their local area three dimensionally in sand, considering scale and heights, making plaster casts from some of the sand models and experiments drawing contour lines, plus plenty of time for feedback and reflection.

Westenhanger train station is part of the Otterpool Park site and using their learning and new skills, the students will conclude the session by considering their ideas for a sculptural map for the station.



Archaeological Investigations

Working with a specialist archaeological surveyor, this provides an opportunity for students to develop their awareness of the ancient historical setting at Otterpool Park (dating back to medieval, Roman and even Bronze Age eras) and the methods used to interpret the historic uses.

As shallow exploratory trenches are dug, the students will be involved in learning the techniques to strip layers of soil and discover what archaeological interests lie beneath the surface and how this information is interpreted and recorded.



	HISTORY, SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY, CAREERS
	KS2 & KS3
	MAY - JUNE
	2 HOURS
	15 STUDENTS
	OTTERPOOL PARK
	GATSBY 4,5

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Habitats in the Landscape

Learn about the work of an ecologist in the context of Otterpool Park and be taken on a led walk to identify habitats in the landscape.

Exploring the hedgerows, wet areas, trees and meadows the children will learn about the types of environments you can expect to find different species of bugs, birds and mammals. The children will learn how to conserve existing features, connect various wildlife areas and look at what new features can be created to attract more creatures.

They will then work together to make a large bug hotel for Otterpool Park that will be left on site to attract the mini beasts.



	SCIENCE (BIOLOGY) CITIZENSHIP, CAREERS
	KS2
	JUNE - JULY
	3 HOURS
	30 STUDENTS
	OTTERPOOL PARK
	GATSBY 5

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Architecture and Food

Internationally renowned architecture practice Hawkins Brown is designing the first primary school at Otterpool Park.

Xuhong Zheng, a lead associate from Hawkins Brown will lead this half day practical session to teach basic architectural drawing techniques.

Participants will learn more about the range of skills required to be an architect through a presentation of 'A day in the life of an architect' that will provide pupils with a good understanding of the profession.

The children will then be led through a workshop where they will design a space for growing and eating through collage and model making.



	DESIGN TECHNOLOGY, MATHS, SCIENCE, ART, CAREERS
	KS2
	DATE AS REQUESTED
	3.5 HOURS
	30 STUDENTS
	DELIVERED IN YOUR SCHOOL
	GATSBY 4,5

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Otterpool Park Workshop

The project at Otterpool Park to develop a new garden town has many facets. It is responding to the need for more homes as the population grows but needs to be created sympathetically to the environment in which it is proposed. Placemaking is the process of creating quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in.

Heritage, sustainability, education, employment, health & wellbeing and creativity are all elements that are woven into creating a new place in order to make it a town that will provide for its new residents and neighbours, while being mindful to reduce the impact on the surrounding area.

This workshop will encourage students to understand the impact of population growth, look at other examples of garden towns across the country and consider how they might approach placemaking in the modern world. The students will also learn about the many different professions that are involved in a project of this scale.



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	CITIZENSHIP, PSHE, CAREERS, DESIGN TECHNOLOGY
	KS1 - KS5
	DATE AS REQUESTED
	1 HOUR
	40 STUDENTS
	DELIVERED IN YOUR SCHOOL
	GATSBY 4,5,6



Westenhanger Train Station

Urban Intervention Scheme

Over the coming years, working with young people, local artists, and community groups and the local White Cliffs Community Rail Partnership, we intend to carry out a number of creative interventions at Westenhanger Station. These will be playful and experimental additions to the station environment, in celebration of its future as the gateway to Otterpool Park.

If you are a teacher, member of a local community group, or a local artist and are interested in joining in, please contact us. We will identify two small scale projects per year to explore and deliver together.

**Contact Tamasin Jarrett
Community Services & Events Manager
community@otterpoolpark.org**



Information

Health & Safety and Safeguarding

While school trips provide a wonderful and memorable learning experience for children to discover new sights and sounds in an unfamiliar environment, we recognise that where there is fun and adventure, there are sometimes risks that accompany it.

We will provide risk assessments for all activities and brief students at the beginning of each session, giving clear instructions for the activities they will undertake.

Schools are requested to provide information regarding any special needs or medical requirements of the students ahead of the visit.

A first aid box and qualified first aider will be available for all sessions provided.

We will identify to you which of our staff and facilitators have a DBS check in place and will ensure where possible, that they have completed the Safeguarding Level 1 through the Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership to ensure that they are aware of, and able to carry out their safeguarding responsibilities effectively.

All staff and facilitators will be aware that working alone with children is not standard practice in any line of work and to be aware of the requirement to have at least two adults in the workspace at any one time.

How to Book

Some of these workshops are offered within a certain period to allow schools to select a suitable date. There is a limited availability of sessions available so please book early to avoid disappointment.

**Book your school workshop by contacting:
Tamasin Jarrett
Community Services & Events Manager
community@otterpoolpark.org**

Introducing Our Team

We are working with a wide range of consultants, professionals and partner organisations to plan and deliver Otterpool Park. Helping the community to access this specialist knowledge and activity is part of our part of our Otterpool Park in the Community outreach activity.

The following specialists are delivering our Learning Programme:



Stantec

Stantec has a passion for creating strong and vibrant communities. Through donations, sponsorships, and volunteering, we connect with our communities and help strengthen them in meaningful ways. To do so, we focus on four pillars—arts, education, health and wellness, and environment. Through partnership working, we help encourage primary and secondary students to pursue higher education or training with an emphasis on skill training in sciences and technology.

Karen Rann

Karen is a visual artist whose commissions and artist residences relate to the history, location and function of the places in which they are situated. Karen also has extensive experience in delivering stand-alone sessions for schools.



Screen South

- **Luke Anderton**, Technical Director and previously Content and Learning Director at Virtus Studio. He has created a series of high-quality training videos and has built a following of 200,000+ subscribers and gained a total of 25,000,000 views. He is an industry expert in Training for Unreal Engine, Audacity, Adobe After Effects and Adobe Photoshop. He currently teaches immersive and XR technical software applications including Unreal Engine at the National Film School and Tokio New Technology School in Madrid.
- **Jo Nolan**, Managing Director of Screen South has been delivering training in screen production for over 20 years. She has a BA & PG Dip in Creative Arts and Screen Production. Recent training and development programmes include delivering a broadcast led training programme producing 100 short film, audio projects and interactive projects for BBC NEW Creatives for BBC Arts and 72 emerging talent short films with Channel 4.
- **Michael Griggs**, Screen South Hi3 Tech Manager will support tech across areas.



Emily Hanna-Grazebrook

Emily is a professional storyteller, singer and literary specialist based in North London. A former English teacher, Emily has run workshops and delivered performances in libraries, museums, schools and at community events for more than 10 years.



Xuhong Zheng, Hawkins Brown

Architecture practice Hawkins Brown is designing the first school at Otterpool Park. The consultancy has engaged with schools for many years as part of its outreach work with the community and its commitment to introducing possibilities to young people.

Xuhong Zheng is an Associate at Hawkins Brown who has run practical workshops for children and young people.



Christina Astin

Christina is well known to many schools in Kent as a teacher, teacher-trainer and workshop leader. She spent over 25 years' experience in the classroom as a science teacher. Now an education consultant and trainer, she offers advice and training in science, leadership and partnerships to schools.



Gallagher

The Gallagher Group has grown and developed into one of South East's most successful privately owned businesses, passionate about their people and relationships with local communities and business. 2023 marks the launch of the Gallagher Academy an initiative to support schools and most importantly the young people that will eventually become successors within the business.

Gallagher strives to help the young people of Kent understand the wide range of opportunities available to them in the construction sector. The academy aims to provide innovative schools sessions, a work experience programme, and an annual careers day to showcase an industry that has so much to offer.

Donna Jones

Donna joined Gallaghers after many years' experience working on projects with young people in Kent and London. With a wealth of apprenticeship knowledge gained from working with the University of Kent she is leading on the Academy roll out.

Donna has spent the last four years with Construction Youth Trust as Joint Head of Programmes - a charity providing support to schools and young people, especially the disadvantaged to the fantastic opportunities available to them within the Built Environment. Donna is a passionate advocate of early careers knowledge for young people to help them make more informed decisions about their future.

Learning Programme at a Glance

Key Stage	Curriculum Area (Subject)	Gatsby	Activity	Date(s) in 2023	Provider / Venue
KS2 - KS3	English, History, Citizenship		Story Writing Competition	Deadline 8th January	Otterpool Park
			Story Writing Award and Performance Evening	2nd February 5 - 7 pm	Westenhanger Castle
KS2	English, STEM, Citizenship, Art		National Story Telling Week	3rd February x3 75min sessions	Emily Hanna-Grazebrook / Westenhanger Castle
KS4 & KS5	STEM, Careers	2,3,5	Apprenticeships and the Built Environment	National Apprenticeships Week 6th - 10th February	Gallagher Construction, In 3 schools
KS3	STEM, Media, Art, Citizenship, PSHE, Digital / IT	4,5,6	Visioning a Virtual World: Otterpool Park	24th February - 31st March x6 5hr sessions	Screen South Digital Hub & Otterpool Park
KS3	Science (Physics), Careers	4	Renewable Energy Workshops	British Science Week 13th - 17th March	Christina Astin / In 3 schools
KS2	Maths, Geography, Science, Art, Careers	4,5	Mapping Concepts	24th - 28th April 3hrs	Karen Rann / In 8 schools
KS2 & KS3	History, Science, Geography, Careers	4,5	Archaeological Investigations	May - June	Stantec Otterpool Park
KS2	Science (Biology), Citizenship, Careers	5,6	Habitats in the Landscape	June - July	Stantec, Otterpool Park
KS2	Design Technology, Maths, Science, Art, Careers	4,5	Architecture & Food	As required 3.5hrs	Hawkins Brown / In 1 school
KS1 - KS5	Citizenship, PSHE, Careers, STEM	4,5,6	Otterpool Park LLP Workshop	As required	Otterpool Park Team / As required

The 8 Gatsby Benchmarks are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from careers and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Community Events Programme

We also run a number of events for the community throughout the year – find out more and sign up to our newsletter for more updates on our website at www.otterpoolpark.org

'Colours & Shapes at the Castle' event with artist Rose Hill – one of a series of events organised by Otterpool Park for The Big Draw Festival 2022





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