

Stomping Grounds NE Trustee Role Description

About Us

Stomping Grounds North East CIO (1205717) is looking for volunteers to support its governance. We deliver Forest School to communities across the North East and use our profits to ensure historically excluded groups can benefit from the impact of connection with nature. We are passionate about giving children and families from all backgrounds the time and space to connect with nature, build relationships with the land and grow communities. It's an exciting time to be involved with us and with the wider Forest School Community. As more people discover the power of being in nature and developing communities, this role plays an important part in helping everyone to access the outdoors, regardless of background or income. You'll be joining a diverse, skilled, supportive team and helping us to meet our mission.

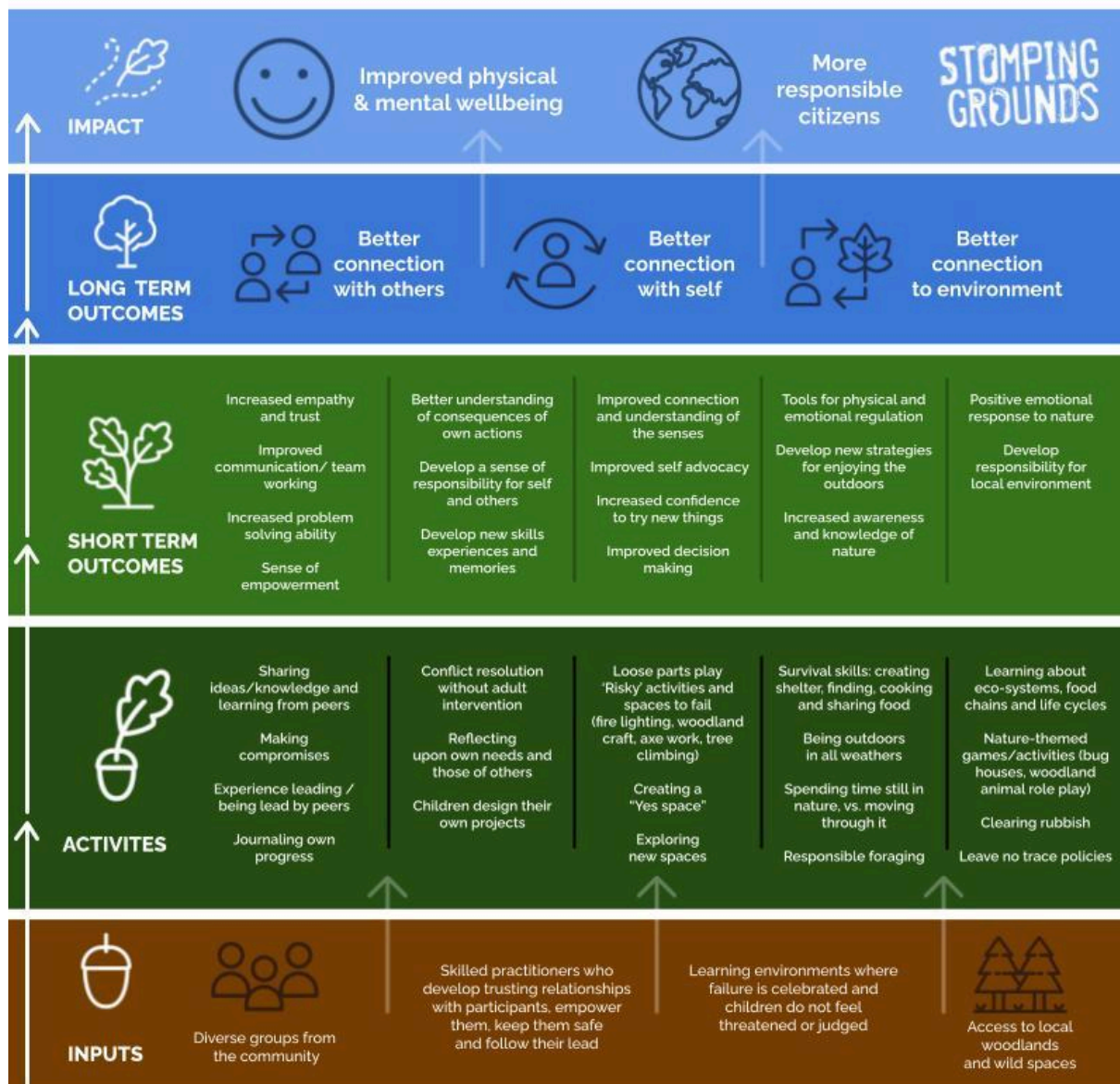
Our Mission and Values:

<p>MISSION</p>  <p>To give children and families from all backgrounds the time and space to connect with nature, build relationships with the land and grow communities.</p>	<p>TOGETHER</p>  <p>We strive to be part of an ecology of services that creates a more holistic impact.</p> <p>We actively partner with local organisations to best understand and serve the needs of communities.</p>
<p>STOMPING GROUNDS</p>	<p>EQUALITY OF ACCESS</p>  <p>We prioritise work to those who would most benefit, which includes those with the least access.</p>
<p>ENABLING</p>  <p>Our practice enables participants to find their own authentic selves.</p> <p>By challenging our ego and subconscious bias, the language, communication and interactions we choose are thoughtful and conscious.</p> <p>They do not seek to define, make assumptions based on labels or change children and young people and instead create and hold space for them to grow and thrive as whoever they choose to be.</p>	<p>RESPONSIBLE</p>  <p>Our decisions are led by our responsibility to the planet.</p> <p>Our organisation models sustainable practices in order to inspire others to do the same.</p>

Our Aims

1. Establish & maintain Forest School and Nursery settings in a variety of woodland areas in North East England.
2. Deliver Forest School & outdoor learning activities in local woodland to children & young people.
3. Engage communities in outdoor activities which reconnect them with nature
4. Encourage children & their families to further engage in outdoor activities to increase health and wellbeing

Our Theory of Change



Equalities statement:

Stomping Grounds actively promotes equality and works hard to bust the myth that bushcraft and outdoor adventure is a 'traditionally white male' pursuit. We encourage applications from

all sections of society and want to ensure that working in and using the services of Stomping Grounds is open to all, including women, men, non binary and LGBTQ+ people, people who experience racism, neurodivergent and disabled people and low income families. We are committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. Stomping Grounds actively promotes inclusion by role modelling and embedding it within delivery. We continually engage with and support organisations and networks as allies of minority groups who are historically excluded from outdoor pursuits. Discrimination because of race, gender, ability, sexual orientation, religious belief, age, or any other perceived difference will not be tolerated.

We are currently looking for Trustees with the following skills who can support the organisation to continue to deliver and develop its current projects and to develop any projects identified to meet future needs.

1. Lived Experience/minoritised communities

Specific responsibilities to include:

- Help develop our Equity and Diversity practices
- Provide feedback on representations within the organisation
- Develop our strategy for recruiting and maintaining a diverse workforce

2. Legal/Police force/Social service/Mental health expertise

Specific responsibilities to include:

- Providing advice and guidance around contracts, leases and licences, and other legal issues
- Support a more holistic understanding of other services that families and young people may be accessing

3. Education/Alternative Provision

Specific responsibilities to include:

- Advice and guidance around the expansion of our AP services
- Support with policy, commissioning and Ofsted
- Support with safeguarding, above and beyond that which is already in place with our Safeguarding trustee

Essential Qualities of All Trustees

- Understanding and acceptance of the [key duties of trustees, and what trustees need to do to carry out these duties competently.](#)

- Trustees must: Know and understand what is said in the governing document and make sure their charity does not do work which falls outside it • Understand the policies and procedures required to run their charity and make sure they have them and that they are kept upto-date • Make sure that proper financial records are kept and that money is managed properly • Make sure that annual accounts and reports are sent to the Charity Commission • Understand their responsibilities as employers and make sure they know what they have to do • Make sure that the chair, secretary and treasurer understand what they have to do and support them in these roles • Oversee and make decisions for the long term good of the charity • Act in a responsible way and understand that it is they not their employees that are responsible for the proper running of the charity
- Adhering to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
- Commitment to [Stomping Grounds' objectives, aims and values](#) and willingness to devote time to carry out responsibilities.
- Strategic and forward looking vision in relation to our aims and objectives.
- Good, independent judgement, political impartiality and the ability to think creatively in the context of the organisation and external environment.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to respect the confidences of colleagues.
- Balancing tact and diplomacy with willingness to challenge and constructively criticise.

Time Commitment

The Trustees meet quarterly for a two hour meeting, usually 6-8pm. In addition electronic and telephone contacts may be required from time to time. We also ask for half a day per quarter of focussed project or development work.

The total hourly commitment would be 34 hours per year.

Meetings are generally held in West Gateshead or Prudhoe. Trustees can join online if required.

Benefits

- Be part of an innovative, progressive team of people working in a new and alternative field.
- Contribute to an organisation that is having a positive effect on people's mental and physical health and their relationship with nature, across a range of communities.
- Form new working relationships and expand your networks and career prospects

Application Process

To apply for one of the posts above, please complete the online form.

There are no deadlines for applications but we will appoint people as soon as we have found someone suitable so we recommend applying as soon as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this, we hope to hear from you soon.

Contact Information

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