



# A guide to becoming an Ambassador School

**Use this guide to help complete your application form. It will help you identify where your school could benefit from the National Park resources that are available and link your activity with the National Park.**

Consider your school's outdoor learning activity across the year groups and how it connects to nature and to the Peak District National Park.

## Top activities

- **Learn more about the special qualities of the Peak District National Park and identify the special qualities of your wild place/school grounds**
- **Undertake a John Muir Award based on the Peak District National Park (KS2 and above).**
- **Visit the Peak District National Park on a day or residential visit.**
- **A visit to your school from a Peak District Ranger**
- **Raise funds for the Peak District National Park Foundation.**
- **Build on your existing outdoor activities e.g. outdoor learning, forest schools, litter picking, learning about National Parks.**

As outdoor interest grows through the school, we hope new generations of young people will benefit from a connection to the natural wonders and cultural heritage of the Peak District National Park, as well as the wild places in the school's area.

## Advice and support from the Peak District National Park Team

Once you have submitted the online application form, a member of the National Park education team will call you to discuss your application. Schools are selected based on their application and this call.

**Please note:** Responsibility lies with the school for ensuring adequate health and safety, legal and insurance arrangements for activities towards achieving a John Muir Award or Ambassador School status. All activities provided by the Peak District National Park will have their own risk assessments done and the National Park instructors will be suitably trained.

## Special Qualities Learning Grid

The learning grid highlights where aspects of the curriculum and the Special Qualities of the Peak District National Park can fit together. It also highlights what resources are available to support schools. It will help you identify "actions your school could do or may already be doing to be an Ambassador School".

The Peak District National Park has seven defined special qualities – these aspects are what makes the place unique and different from other landscapes. We have provided two wordings for the special qualities. One is aimed at adults and older students the other for younger audiences.

## Special Qualities Learning Grid

Peak District National Park Special Quality	Curriculum links	Resources and activities available
<p>Beautiful views created by contrasting landscapes and dramatic geology</p> <p><i>Beautiful views of dramatic landscapes</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography - Rocks and Soils</li> <li>• Art - landscape painters and photography</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Peak District National Park</a> online talk KS2 – free session on 'rocks and soils'</li> <li>• Special Qualities PowerPoint with teachers notes</li> <li>• Visit the National Park take photos, draw, paint and enjoy the landscape</li> </ul>
<p>Internationally important and locally distinctive wildlife and habitats</p> <p><i>Important wildlife and habitats</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science – Plants, Habitats, Adaptations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take part in one of our <a href="#">education visits</a> Nature Discovery KS1, Plants, Glorious Plants KS1, Habitats KS2 (get a 20% discount as an Ambassador School)</li> <li>• National Parks and School Grounds KS2, <a href="#">Peak District National Park</a> supported activity</li> <li>• Peak District National Park <a href="#">Close Up Wildlife Quiz</a> – Short YouTube video</li> <li>• <a href="#">National Parks UK Look Wild</a> – Citizen science for young people to record nature in your setting or in the National Park</li> <li>• <a href="#">Moors for the Future Citizen Science</a> – If your setting is close to the Peak District uplands or you are visits the upland areas, you may wish to be more involved in the science. Suitable for KS2 – KS5</li> </ul>
<p>Undeveloped places of tranquility and dark night skies within reach of millions</p> <p><i>Peaceful places that millions of people can visit</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHSE - Wellbeing and Mindfulness</li> <li>• Residential trip</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short stargazing video clips of <a href="#">UK National Parks at night</a></li> <li>• Dark Skies Poem <a href="#">video clip</a></li> <li>• Peak District National Park <a href="#">10 ideas for mindfulness in nature</a></li> </ul>
<p>Landscapes that tell a story of thousands of years of people, farming and industry</p> <p><i>A countryside that has been visibly shaped by a human history.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History – Bronze and Iron Age, Medieval, Industrial Revolution</li> <li>• Geography – manmade and natural features, urban and rural, maps</li> <li>• Citizenship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambassador Schools Lesson 1 – The countryside code, keeping special places special</li> <li>• <a href="#">Peak District National Park</a> online session. Free session 'A virtual walk in the National Park'</li> </ul>
<p>Characteristic settlements with strong communities and traditions</p> <p><i>Villages and towns special to the Peak District with local traditions</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art - well dressing</li> <li>• Geography – urban and rural</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Village Study Walk</a> - Self-led supported visit to a Peak District village KS2. Maps and support information provided.</li> <li>• Information about <a href="#">well dressing</a> which is a local tradition in many Peak District villages. Great art activity for KS1 - KS3</li> </ul>

Peak District National Park Special Quality	Curriculum links	Resources and activities available
<p>An inspiring space for escape, adventure, discovery and quiet reflection</p> <p><i>Space for people to visit, enjoy adventurous activities, discover new interests, connect with nature and improve their wellbeing.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHSE - Wellbeing and Mindfulness</li> <li>• PE – orienteering, maps, walking, team building</li> <li>• Literacy – creative writing, poetry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take part in one of our <a href="#">education visits</a> Peak District Explorers – Map skills KS2 or Woodland Tails KS1 (get a 20% discount as an Ambassador School)</li> <li>• Day or residential visit to the Peak District National Park</li> </ul>
<p>Vital benefits for millions of people that flow beyond the landscape boundary</p> <p><i>A landscape that gives millions of people clean water, fresh air and wellbeing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography – Rivers, Water Cycle, Climate Change, Hydrology</li> <li>• Citizenship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take part in one of our <a href="#">education visits</a> Rivers KS2 and Hydrology KS3/4 (get a 20% discount as an Ambassador School)</li> <li>• Information and advice on leading a <a href="#">self-led field visit</a> including Hydrology KS3, KS4</li> <li>• UK National Parks in 100 seconds by National Geographic, <a href="#">YouTube</a></li> </ul>

### Wider educational and curriculum links

**Cultural capital** – National Parks are key part of our nation’s natural cultural capital. National Parks showcase some of the best landscapes our country has to offer. They are protected under laws that were campaigned for by hard working people. In the UK, we have a wealth of cultural capital that National Parks look after and care for.

**British values** – ‘Personal responsibility and liberty’, e.g. following the Countryside Code and right to roam. ‘Democracy’, e.g. Kinder Mass trespass of 1932.

**Global goals** – The United Nations’ 17 global goals for sustainable development: global goal 3 good health and well-being, global goal 6 clean water and sanitation, global goal 13 climate change, global goal 14 life below water, global goal 15 life on land.

### Free downloads and more information

[John Muir Award](#) – Nationally recognised award suitable for KS2 and older. This award can support your school’s learning about the Peak District National Park. The John Muir Award also produces a wide range of resources for engaging young people in outdoor learning.

[National Parks UK](#) – Supports the family of 15 National Parks across the UK. There is a new set of teachers’ resources available for download.