

PhD placement/PIPS: Public Programmes at Wakehurst

Placement supervisor:

Lorraine Lecourtois, l.lecourtois@kew.org or nominated manager

Placement department:

Public Programmes

Placement overview and objectives:

Wakehurst is a wild botanic garden in the heart of Sussex, with more than 500 acres of land, the Millenium Seed Bank and plenty of things for families to do. There are a range of placements available across public programmes at Wakehurst from interpretation to learning and visitor engagement. The objective of these placements is to engage the public in science, horticulture and history and support the visitor experience.

Tasks to be undertaken/possible projects:

- Marketing Communications – Story gathering science stories for the Millenium Seed Bank, Nature Unlocked and Shared Outcomes Fund and to feed into ongoing film creation processes.
- Interpretation – support interpretation creation which could encompass: content gathering and research, social evaluation including visitor journey mapping, reviewing relevant scientific papers to ensure best practice, and gathering media to contribute to interpretation development.
- Learning – 3 month teaching support role with some resource development which could happen May-July or Sept-Nov onsite.
- Programmes (public events) and Participation (community engagement) – design a method for evaluating engagement levels with a certain event/programme and develop a mini research project.

Required skills and experience:

- An interest in the area of work and a passion for delivering great engagement experiences.
- An openness to working with a variety of people and communicate your work with staff and the public.
- The ability to self-motivate and complete projects with support from the team.

Skills and areas of knowledge that can be developed:

- Verbal communication skills
- Written communication for the public
- Literature research

Location of work:

Wakehurst but could be hybrid

Length of placement:

3 months but flexible

Provisional start date:

Can be offered year round. A placement in the Learning team would be in May or September.