



# NatureEd CIC Terms of Operation

## Our Mission Statement

NatureEd CIC is a social enterprise offering dynamic environmental education activities which support local communities enjoy and benefit their local green spaces.

## Aims

We aim to raise eco-awareness, knowledge and skills within the community and to promote local heritage and culture.

## Model of Operation

We are a non-VAT registered Community Interest Company committed to meeting the needs of the local community in which it works by providing high quality environmental education experiences at an affordable cost. Our registered company number in England and Wales is 965505. As a not-for-profit organisation, we re-invest any surplus into the community. Fees charged cover materials, equipment, facilitator time and administration of the company only.

We operate through a network of facilitators working to values and standards as listed in our NatureEd CIC~Facilitator Agreement. All facilitators will hold relevant nationally recognised qualifications and DBS clearance. We share core working procedures and practises for ensuring a consistent standard of provision and as such are covered under the company's insurance policies. All facilitators are registered sole traders, responsible for their own finances, tax and personal liabilities.

The range and content of the activity programmes we offer ensures all sectors of the community enjoy equal access to our provision. By actively encouraging a long term involvement with the environment, NatureEd CIC is helping the local community to work towards a more sustainable future. Within our remit, we will actively seek to develop new initiatives which fulfil our aims, to involve volunteers in our operation and to work in cooperation with other providers and partner agencies who share a common agenda.

## Directors

Directorship of NatureEd is open to all suitably qualified individuals, without regards to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, sex or sexual orientation, who:

- are over 18 years old
- have a minimum of 5 years relevant experience and can show a proven record of commitment to the delivery of environmental education to local communities
- are willing to work to the agreed NatureEd CIC Articles of Association

The current Directors of NatureEd CIC are:

- Judy Alderson
- Jude Murray
- Eleanor Sherwin



A directorship may be terminated by the agreement of other directors, for good reason as listed in the Articles of Association, provided that the director concerned shall have the right to be heard, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.

### **Accountability**

The Directors will jointly manage the operation of NatureEd CIC with due consideration and consultation with its customers and / or any of other partner agencies.

The CIC is Limited by Guarantee, Schedule 1, Small Membership with the liability of each director limited to £1. We recognise that Directors will be acting in good faith unless there is clear evidence to suggest otherwise.

Directors will meet on a regular basis. At least 2 Directors must be present for meetings to take place. These meetings will include:

- presentation of quarterly written reports of operation which will be made available to any stakeholder and / other partner agency
- an annual general meeting which will be open to any stakeholder and / other partner agency to attend

### **Asset Lock**

As a Community Interest Company, NatureEd CIC has the legal identity to directly own financial or property/ equipment assets in its own right. Such assets will be made available for all facilitators to use when delivering activities on behalf of the company. In the event of NatureEd CIC ceasing to trade, all such assets will be passed to Lancashire Wildlife Trust in accordance with our Articles of Association.

Any assets which belong to individual facilitators but that are made available for shared use are exempt from any such asset lock and will continue to remain the property and liability of the original individual owner.

### **Alterations to the Terms**

Any changes to these terms must be agreed by at least two-thirds majority of the Directors present at any meeting.

### **Dissolution**

NatureEd CIC may be wound up at any time by mutual agreement by all Directors. In the event of winding up, any goodwill associated with NatureEd CIC may be given to another organisation with a similar aim.

**Copies of any of the documents referred to in this summary are available on request**