



Alastair Davidson

ADDRESS

75 Currievale Park,
Edinburgh, EH14 5TN

PHONE

07817100015

EMAIL

alastair.davidson@googlemail.com

Profile

I am a 34 years old and have worked in the Outdoor Education sector for over 10 years. Originally from Milton of Campsie, near Glasgow, I moved to Edinburgh in 2006 to study a PGDip in Outdoor Education. My career choices and working priorities have developed over the years to focus on the environment and helping people make connections with the natural world. I enjoy many outdoor activities in my spare time such as rock climbing, mountain biking and bushcraft. I like to work with the land and have a keen interest in Crofting and the craft and culture behind it. I am learning the Gaelic language and have an interest in music; playing the bagpipes and am learning to play the guitar. I am passionate about learning outdoors and look to further my own learning whenever I have the opportunity.

Experience

WOODLAND LEARNING COORDINATOR, RSPB LOCH LEVEN, 04/12/12 - 30/06/13 (FIXED TERM CONTRACT)

I plan and deliver outdoor learning sessions for primary schools in the Perth Academy cluster at Quarrymill Woodland Park in Perth. I work closely with teachers to design a series of outdoor learning experiences appropriate to age, stage and curricular outcomes. I also contribute to the work of the Life Long Learning team at RSPB Loch Leven. This includes facilitating school visits to the reserve, family and holiday events and Forest School sessions.

OUTDOOR LEARNING FACILITATOR, HARMENY EDUCATION TRUST LTD, BALERNO - 06/01/08 - 01/12/12

As an Outdoor Learning Facilitator I supported pupils education by providing learning experiences in the outdoors related to classroom learning. I planned and delivered these sessions on a daily basis with Curriculum for Excellence outcomes in mind. I ran extra sessions for high school students and after school clubs such as 'Nature Watch', 'Bushcraft' and 'Photography Club'. During school holidays I provided activities for children on a residential placement, this ranged from mountain biking to overnight camping trips. I often planned and delivered sessions for individual children and their families, volunteers, staff team development and for external clients.

RESIDENTIAL CHILDCARE WORKER, HARMENY EDUCATION TRUST LTD - AUG 06 - JAN 08

Providing care for young people with social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties. This included general day-to-day care and support throughout the school day. I also acted as a keyworker for one child, working with his parents, teacher, and social worker to achieve the goals of his care plan and resilience report. This involved recording progress and writing reports. During this time I was responsible for planning and running group work with the young people under our care and supporting Harmeny Outdoors during holidays. I worked closely with a team of approximately eight care workers.

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR, BRAENDAM FAMILY HOUSE, THORNHILL - AUG 04 - SEP 05

My main role was to plan and deliver activities for families living with the effects of poverty. Families came to us for respite care and some had not been in the countryside before. I planned activities that they could enjoy as a family and perhaps be accessed in the future by using free resources such as the Countryside Ranger Service. I was responsible for supervising and training volunteers. We usually had a team of 8 or so volunteers from all over the world with whom I lived with and supported throughout their placement. I often planned activities that could be an important experience for both families and volunteers.

HEAD COUNSELLOR, NEW LONDON COUNTY 4-H CAMP, CONNECTICUT, USA, MAY TO SEP - 01 - 04

During this time I held positions as Counsellor, Canoe Instructor/Lifeguard, Waterfront Director, and Head Counsellor.

As Counsellor I was responsible for a group of 12 or so young people aged between 7 and 16 during their summer camp stay. This included their day-to-day care, general play activities, running canoe and swimming lessons, and planning evening activities. As Waterfront Director I was responsible for all water-based activity at the camp. This meant ensuring staff were properly trained in the activity they taught and aware and practiced in emergency procedures. The camp was inspected each year by state health authorities and a lot of my



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work was in preparing for this and filling the relevant paperwork. As Head Counsellor I worked as part of the camp management team. I helped hire staff early on in the season then designed and delivered some of the induction-training programme.

Education

University of Edinburgh, PGDip Outdoor Education, 2006

University of Stirling, BA Sociology, 2000

Kilsyth Academy, Highers: Maths, English, Music, History, Biology, 1995/96

Professional Qualifications

Collective Training, Outdoor First Aid, 2012

Mountain Leader Training UK, Single Pitch Award, 2011

Mountain Bushcraft Ways, NCFE Level 3 Advanced Bushcraft, 2011

Lothian Transport, Minibus Drivers Awareness Scheme, 2011

Mountain Leader Training UK, Mountain Leader Award Training, 2010

Institute for Outdoor Learning, Foundational Certificate in Bushcraft Competency, 2010

Scottish Cycling, Cycle Trainer, 2009

Scottish Mountainbike Leader Association, Trail Cycle Leader, 2009

Institute for Outdoor Learning, Leave No Trace Training, 2008

Grand National Archery Society, Archery Leader, 2008

Skills

I am a skilled outdoor learning facilitator with a creative working style. I can plan, design and facilitate learning experiences for people of different ages and backgrounds. I have several outdoor activity leadership awards and the experience of putting these into practice with groups over several years. During my career I have supervised groups of young people through different achievement awards such as the John Muir Award and NICAS (National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme). I have extensive experience of working with young people with social, emotional and behavioral difficulties. Being computer literate and having knowledge of using Microsoft Office, spreadsheets and document design is important to my work as a communication and recording tool. My communication skills are excellent which includes writing skills and I can produce work for a range of audiences.

Referrals

Kyle Strachan, Manager, Harmony Outdoors, Mansfield Road, Balerno, EH14 7JY

0131 4493938

kyle.strachan@harmony.org.uk

RSPB Scotland, Human Resources, 2 Lochside View, Edinburgh, EH12 9DH

0131 3174100