

Gifted and Talented Children

What do we mean by gifted and talented? Dorset LEA defines very able and gifted children as:

... children who have ability or abilities beyond the large majority of the children in the school and who consequently require more challenging teaching and opportunities.... Their potential will be shown in any or all of a wide range of contexts such as different learning styles, creativity or leadership.

(Dorset LEA Policy for Very Gifted Children, Feb 2003)

All schools are now required to identify their gifted and talented children, and ensure that their needs are met through supplementing the curriculum with additional opportunities and enrichment activities.



Leeson House Field Studies Centre

Here at Leeson House, we provide a range of enrichment courses designed specifically for these gifted and talented children. Courses generally run over weekends, although some may take place during the week. The price of each course includes accommodation, food, tuition and most materials.

The courses are open to children from any school, but we do ask that the child's school complete an endorsement confirming that they would be suited to the intensiveness and subject matter of the course.

The content of the courses is intended not only to support and enrich the National Curriculum, but also to extend outside of it into other areas. All the teaching staff are experts in their field, and with working with gifted and talented children.

Leeson House has been providing residential experiences for children for many years, and the staff here are practised in easing the worries of those children away from home for the first time, along with caring for all who stay with us. Where possible, friends are put together in bedrooms, providing it has been requested on the application form.

Places are limited, so please book early to avoid any disappointment! Feel free to phone the centre on 01929-422126 if you have any queries or concerns.

The Dorset programme for gifted and talented children offers you an opportunity to be part of the exciting residential course:

"Minibeast Madness!"

**A course for keen wildlife enthusiasts in
Yrs 4 and 5**



**At Leeson House, near Swanage
on Saturday 23rd to Sunday 24th July 2011**

£70 ALL INCLUSIVE

Course Directors: *Steve and Carole Davis*



“Minibeast Madness”

This course introduces children to the diverse range of habitats and the minibeasts that occupy them, here in the Isle of Purbeck. Although the exact programme will be subject to change depending on the individual interests of the pupils and the opportunities available for observing wildlife at that time, the course will aim to include the following

- A visit to Kimmeridge Marine Nature Reserve to investigate what lurks in the rockpools!
- Studying the moths, minibeasts and other animals that live in Leeson House grounds!
- A walk near Corfe Castle to observe the beautiful summer butterflies!
- Making your own bug box to take home!

Numbers on the course will be restricted to 10 to ensure individual attention by the tutors and to minimise disturbance to the wildlife we will be observing. This course is ideal for children with an interest and passion for minibeasts and will be a fun, exciting and very active two days. Be prepared to walk quietly, watch carefully and stay up very late.

The course will run from 10am on Saturday 23rd to 4pm on Sunday 24th July 2011. There will be a presentation to display the work undertaken during the course at 3.30pm to which all are welcome.

The weekend's activities are led by Steve and Carole Davis.

Steve Davis is the Volunteer Support Officer for the Dorset Wildlife Trust, a keen birdwatcher and fully qualified Bat expert.

Carole Davis is a Field Studies Tutor at Leeson House, prior to which she taught at a Bournemouth primary school.

Both Steve and Carole are registered DWT Wildlife Watch leaders, whose energy and enthusiasm for wildlife will make the course come alive in every sense of the word.

Leeson House Field Studies Centre

Leeson is an historic house situated on the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset - an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The local landscape encompasses hills, heath and the Jurassic Coastline – a World Heritage Site – all derived from the local and wide-ranging geology. Sites such as Corfe Castle, Arne Nature Reserve and the Purbeck Hills all provide inspirational settings for both physical and academic activities.

Facilities include 2½ hectares of ecologically managed grounds, a games field, classroom, laboratory and library, and a large games room. Accommodation is in dormitories, with separate shower and toilet facilities. Staff will be resident close by in the house during all overnight courses.

Leeson works within Dorset LEA's guidelines for safety during offsite and residential visits. All staff are checked via the Criminal Records Bureau, as are any visiting teaching and support staff. All security measures have been taken to ensure the safety of students whilst staying at Leeson House.