

Environment Officer

Role Description

Role Purpose

The Environment Officer leads Dorset NEU's work on environmental justice, sustainability and climate-related issues that affect education. The role promotes awareness of environmental concerns, supports eco-friendly practices across Dorset workplaces, and ensures environmental issues are considered within Dorset NEU's organising, campaigning and policy work.

Key Responsibilities

1. Environmental Leadership & Representation

- Act as Dorset NEU's lead representative on environmental and climate-justice issues.
- Ensure environmental concerns are reflected in Dorset NEU discussions, campaigns and decision-making.
- Promote the NEU's national environmental priorities, including climate justice, sustainability and whole-school environmental education.

2. Supporting Reps & Workplaces

- Support workplace reps in promoting sustainable practices, such as reducing waste, improving energy efficiency, and encouraging active travel initiatives.
- Share NEU guidance on environmental issues, climate education and green workplace strategies.
- Encourage workplaces to engage with national campaigns such as Let's Go Zero and school-based climate initiatives.

3. Member Engagement & Awareness

- Communicate environmental updates, campaigns and resources to Dorset NEU members.
- Encourage participation in NEU environmental training, events and climate-justice organising.
- Promote environmental education as a core part of the curriculum and professional practice.

4. Campaigns & Local Activity

- Help coordinate Dorset NEU involvement in climate-related campaigns, events and awareness days.
- Work with the Campaigns Officer to amplify climate-related messages and actions.
- Support members and reps to plan local environmental activities, such as school eco initiatives or district-wide campaigns.

5. Monitoring & Reporting

- Monitor local environmental issues affecting education settings, such as school estate conditions, heating/ventilation concerns and access to green spaces.
- Provide updates at Dorset NEU meetings on environmental activity, opportunities and concerns.

6. Collaboration

- Work closely with the District Secretary, Campaigns Officer, Organising Officer, Equality Officer and other Dorset NEU officers.
- Liaise with the Regional Office and NEU national environmental networks.
- Build positive relationships with local environmental groups, climate-justice organisations and community partners where appropriate.

Skills & Attributes

- Interest in environmental justice, sustainability and climate education (or willingness to learn).
- Strong communication and engagement skills.
- Ability to promote environmental initiatives in an inclusive and accessible way.
- Organisational skills to support campaigns, events and ongoing activity.
- Commitment to NEU values of equality, sustainability and collective action.

Time Commitment

- Attendance at Dorset NEU meetings.
- Ongoing engagement with members, reps and environmental initiatives.
- Participation in regional/national NEU environmental training or events where possible.