

Thank you for applying to take part in the Wilder Kent Awards 2025. By entering, you will be showing your ambition to connect people with nature and protect wildlife for the future. Any achievement is a helping hand for wildlife and the scheme allows you to increase your award level year on year so you can help wildlife for as long as possible.

This form will be your submission document. You can use it to track your progress across the year and then submit this form, along with supporting evidence, by **31st January 2026** to the following website:[**kwtg.uk/upload-evidence**](https://eu.jotform.com/243253832151349)

We **strongly encourage the use of photographs and videos** to evidence and support your submission. Throughout the year, it may be a good idea to create three folders on your computer to store supporting evidence for each of the three categories listed below. These folders can then be uploaded along with this submission form to the above website in January 2026. Please **do not insert photos into this form** – only use this form to describe the ways you feel you have met the criteria.

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| Name of nursery: |  |

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| Have you applied for the Wilder Kent Awards before? | No – this is our first time! | Yes – please state the year you applied and level of award achieved |
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We have broken the awards down into three categories: **1.** Protecting Wildlife, **2.** Sustainability and Carbon Reduction and **3.** Engage with Nature. Use the below table to detail and record your work towards each of the criteria. You do not have to have completed everything in each category, but the more you do the more you will be helping to protect nature and create a wilder Kent. For some criteria, we have also provided some links to **Tips** which could help you on your journey. Best of luck!

1. Protect and Restore Nature

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| Criteria | Please identify which criteria you have met and describe how you have met them: |
| Have a wildlife garden / space supporting a range of wildlife. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-start-wildlife-garden-scratch) |  |
| Ensure areas of long grass are left to provide wildlife habitat on site. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-grow-wild-patch-or-mini-meadow) |  |
| Install and maintain bird boxes where appropriate. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-build-bird-box) |  |
| Install and maintain hedgehog boxes where appropriate. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-build-hedgehog-home) |  |
| Install and maintain bat boxes where appropriate. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-build-bat-box) |  |
| Install and maintain minibeast homes at all suitable places. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-build-bug-mansion) |  |
| Leave food for wildlife during winter months. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-feed-birds-your-garden) |  |
| Ensure that no chemicals are used on the gardens or wild areas. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/chemical-free-organic-gardening) |  |
| Introduce a pond that will sustain a variety of wildlife. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-create-mini-pond) |  |
| Install simple water sources for wildlife and keep them clean. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-provide-water-wildlife) |  |
| Work with grounds staff to maximise the site and available spaces for wildlife. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/climate-friendly-gardening) |  |
| Have a Wilder Kent committee made up of staff and students that meets regularly and monitors actions. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-help-wildlife-school) |  |
| Have a community allotment or wild space and grow produce. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-grow-wildlife-friendly-vegetable-garden) |  |
| Write to your MP about a local wildlife or climate issue. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/contact-your-mp) |  |
| Conduct surveys - such as a BioBlitz - to identify wildlife on site and monitor it. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-06/KWT%20Land%20Mgt%20Advice_Sheet%2011%20-%20Recording%20wildlife%20-%20getting%20started.pdf) |  |
| Carry out litter picks both on your school site and in the local community. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/do-litter-pick-or-beach-clean) |  |

1. Sustainability and Carbon Reduction

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| Criteria | Please identify which criteria you have met and describe how you have met them: |
| Promote recycling and provide easy access to the right facilities. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/recycle-and-reuse) |  |
| Encourage parents, children and staff to start walking to the school. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-how-you-travel) |  |
| Switch off electrical equipment when it is not in use. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-your-energy-use) |  |
| Actively compost waste and use it to make things grow. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-compost-your-waste) |  |
| Encourage litter-free lunches and non-disposable utensils. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/reduce-food-waste) |  |
| Take action so parents turn off car engines whilst waiting at the nursery gate. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-how-you-travel) |  |
| Reuse and re-purpose old materials to help wildlife. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/recycle-and-reuse) |  |
| Use water saving devices in any older toilets and washrooms. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-conserve-water) |  |
| Monitor and improve your nursery’s energy consumption. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-your-energy-use) |  |
| Ensure that energy from renewable sources is used on the nursery site. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-your-energy-use) |  |
| Create a policy to eliminate single use plastic and enforce it on site. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-use-less-plastic) |  |
| Increase the amount of locally sourced food that is served. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/change-what-you-eat) |  |
| Promote a meat free day a week and educate children on why it helps. [**Learn more**](https://meatfreemondays.com/get-involved/educators/) |  |
| Monitor and improve your nursery’s water consumption. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-conserve-water) |  |
| Use butts to capture rain water for use in nursery gardens and nature areas. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-install-water-butt) |  |
| Use paper saving devices in any older toilets and washrooms. |  |

1. Inspire and Collaborate

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| Criteria | Please identify which criteria you have met and describe how you have met them: |
| Have a ‘Wilder Kent Champion’ promoting the awards and your actions to the nursery. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-help-wildlife-school) |  |
| Ensure that children have a chance to learn about Kent’s wildlife whilst at nursery. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-explorer) |  |
| Encourage pupils to grow nectar rich plants at home and consider providing free seeds. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-attract-bumblebees-your-garden) |  |
| Engage with parents and the community in creating wild areas locally for all. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/blog/inspire-collaborate) |  |
| Engage with campaigns and projects like our ‘Action for Insects’ initiative or ‘Wilder Blean’ project. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/our-work/our-projects) |  |
| Organise class visits to local nature reserves and sites. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/learn/education) |  |
| Run full ‘Forest School’ programmes for children and introduce them to nature as early as possible. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on/forest-school) |  |
| Run outdoor learning sessions often and encourage leaders to take classes outside. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/explore/education/outreach) |  |
| Work with a local business or group to improve multiple areas for wildlife. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/blog/inspire-collaborate) |  |
| Plant native trees, hedgerows and shrubs. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions/how-plant-tree) |  |
| Carry out a fundraising day to help out a wildlife or conservation charity of your choice. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/school-fundraising-pack) |  |
| Run outdoor mindfulness sessions to connect with nature. [**Learn more**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/blog/five-ways-wellbeing-nature) |  |
| Create a manifesto for wildlife - keep a diary, journal or blog of your Wilder Kent Award journey. |  |

Other:

Check out our [**Actions page**](https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/actions) for more ideas on how you can help wildlife or come up with your own ideas and involve as many people as you can. Once your nursery is achieving gains for wildlife, why not involve other nearby nurseries and begin to create a network of **Wilder Nurseries** across your local area?

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| Please use this box to detail any additional steps (not mentioned above) which you have taken towards helping make a Wilder Kent: |
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