

**PUPIL SUPPORT  
JOHN MUIR AWARD**



**Faculty Contact:** Mrs P McIntosh, PT Pupil Support

**Course/Subjects Name**

John Muir Award – Explorer (intermediate) level

**Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)**

Open to anyone who is enthusiastic about conservation and the environment.

**Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course**

Purpose: to learn about nature by discovering and exploring woods, beaches and other local wild places. You will engage in sensory games, participate in conservation activities and learn about John Muir’s life and legacy. You will learn a range of practical skills: planting trees, maintaining paths, clearing invasive species, picking litter, creating habitats, woodland management. You will also develop a range of employability skills: working in a team and independently, showing initiative, problem solving, planning and organising. Throughout the programme you will work on a research project which you will present to the rest of the class

Aims: to foster an interest in protecting and conserving our environment.

Benefits: many studies have shown that engaging with nature is essential for physical and mental wellbeing.

“Going to the woods is going home” as John Muir said.

**Progression Routes**

JMA Conserver level (Advanced)

**PUPIL SUPPORT**  
**PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION - CORE**



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**Levels Available (Entry based on prior attainment)**

Students will experience one period of Personal and Social Education each week.

**Purpose, Aims and Benefits of the Course**

PSE in S4/5/6 is designed to prepare students to make a successful transition post school and will focus on skills for learning, life and work. Workshops will include Managing Money; Tomorrow's Driver; Coping with Stress/Understanding Mental Health. All students will use the Skills Scotland website "My World of Work" to identify strengths; understand what is meant by employability skills; explore different careers; create a CV; develop interview techniques. Where appropriate the students' experiences will allow for personalisation and choice i.e. classes will be tailored to suit individual career pathways – employment; further education; higher education.

In S4 students will undertake a work experience placement.

In S5 students will follow the core PSE programme for half of the session and will choose one course from Independent Living Skills, Health & Wellbeing or Employability Skills for the second half.

During S6 support is given to the preparation of Personal Statements for UCAS applications and completing college and job applications.