

Thriving in Nature Fund

Grants awarded 2026

(by value of grant)

Organisation name	Amount awarded	District	Demographic themes	Summary
Wild Oxfordshire	£6,548	South Oxfordshire	families, schools, local interest groups and elderly residents	Wild Oxfordshire and Sustainable Didcot will expand community-led nature recovery, enhancing green spaces, training volunteers and engaging residents through wildlife-friendly gardening, habitat creation and wellbeing activities to support biodiversity.
Hendreds Environment Group	£8,500	Vale of White Horse	disabled, elderly, at risk of isolation, SEN	Funding will make HEG Grows more accessible and educational by installing a compost toilet, creating a willow copse, and delivering nature-based learning and skills activities for volunteers, families, SEND groups, older residents and allotment users.
Cotswolds Rivers Trust	£9,060	Oxfordshire	wider community	The grant will support a volunteer-led Outfall Safari and water quality monitoring project on Thames tributaries to build citizen science skills, identify pollution pressures and strengthen community stewardship of local rivers.
Disabled Countryside Access CIC	£9,910	Oxfordshire	disabled	Funding will support filming and reviewing accessible countryside routes, mentoring EMBS College students in digital skills, and using disabled people's lived experience to drive practical improvements in countryside access.

Chinnor and Thame Friends of the Earth	£9,950	South Oxfordshire	NEET, older people, at risk of isolation, children, carers	Funding will support nature connection, green social prescribing and practical rural skills sessions at Village Farm and Mill Lane Community Garden for underserved local groups and people seeking environmental skills.
Iffley Fields Residents Association	£9,998	Oxford City	wider community, families, refugees, mothers	The Iffley Fields NaturEscape project will transform Meadow Lane Playground and nearby green spaces through nature connection sessions, community events, volunteer stewardship, climate-resilient planting and inclusive activities for migrant women, mothers and families.
Friends of Sutton Courtenay Primary School ("FOSCS")	£10,000	Vale of White Horse	children, SEN, low-income	The grant will equip a new outdoor classroom and science garden so all pupils, especially those with SEND or from lower-income families, can learn, regulate, grow food and connect with nature year-round.
Warriner School Farm Trust	£10,000	Cherwell	children, young people, wider community	Wellness in Wellies will provide a structured weekly farm-based ecotherapy group for adults with mental health conditions, combining practical rural skills, peer support, animal care and supported access to nature.
15th Didcot Scout Group	£16,369	South Oxfordshire	Young people within Scouting across the whole of Didcot	15th Didcot Scout Group will transform newly acquired land into a safe outdoor learning space, providing recreation, wildlife habitats and growing areas for young people from across Didcot.
Sustainable Didcot	£16,369	South Oxfordshire	families, schools, local interest groups and elderly residents	Wild Oxfordshire and Sustainable Didcot will expand community-led nature recovery, enhancing green spaces, training volunteers and engaging residents through wildlife-friendly gardening, habitat creation and wellbeing activities to support biodiversity.



Red Kite Family Centre	£17,481	South Oxfordshire	families, violence survivors, low-income, children, disabled	The grant will restart and expand nature-based activities for children aged 0–5 and families through farm visits, community gardens and centre-based growing activities that support early years wellbeing and access to nature.
Braziers Park School of Integrative Social Research	£28,728	South Oxfordshire	disabled, bereaved, older people, cancer patients, at risk of isolation	The grant will fund the 'Grow Together' programme at Braziers Park, providing free, structured six-week therapeutic horticulture courses for adults in South Oxfordshire who face barriers to accessing conventional mental health or wellbeing support, with the aim of improving mental health, reducing isolation, and fostering a stronger connection to nature through hands-on gardening activities.
Cotteslowe Greenhouse	£49,267	Oxfordshire	children, SEN, wider community	Funding will support core horticultural and community engagement staff so Cotteslowe Greenhouse can sustain school visits, volunteer growing sessions, produce sharing, nature programmes and inclusive food-growing opportunities.
Equilore	£49,920	Oxfordshire	children, SEN, young people, violence survivors	Funding will expand outdoor equine-facilitated psychotherapy, group programmes, volunteering and land-management infrastructure for Oxfordshire residents with trauma, poor mental health and neurodevelopmental differences.
Wychwood Forest Trust	£50,000	West Oxfordshire	young offenders, wider community	The grant will support a Reserves and Land Officer to expand volunteer work, rural skills courses, guided walks, nature recovery projects and partnerships with underrepresented groups across Wychwood nature reserves.
TOTAL	£302,100			

