



GROUP WORK AT MELTON OUTDOOR LEARNING HUB

INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS



www.meltonlearninghub.org/engage

Our mission and vision is...

ENGAGE's mission is to empower young people (11-18 years) and their families with practical advice, support and resources that build family strength, resilience and independence.

Engage envisions a society in which the most vulnerable young people will have the power to lift themselves out of unsafe circumstances and to create positive, healthy life choices for themselves, their families and their communities, now and for the future.

What do we do?

At ENGAGE, we provide tailored 1-to-1 support for vulnerable young people aged 11-16, referred to us by Behaviour & Inclusion Partnerships, Social Care, schools, families, and other agencies.

The young people we support are often at risk of, or have experienced, permanent exclusion from school. Many face challenges such as involvement in crime or anti-social behaviour, special educational needs, poor mental or physical health, and limited life opportunities due to poverty, trauma, or ineffective parenting.

Our approach recognises that change happens not only with the young person, but also within the home. We actively involve families in the support process, helping to create the consistency and encouragement young people need to thrive.

Our group work is delivered on our dedicated outdoor learning site, where we take a forest school approach. These sessions provide young people with valuable time away from the pressures of school, allowing them to build confidence, improve communication, work positively with others, and develop healthier attitudes and behaviours.

At the heart of our work is a commitment to helping young people feel heard, valued, and supported to overcome the barriers they face. We guide them towards positive pathways and real opportunities that can lead to brighter futures.



MEET THE TEAM

@ MELTON OUTDOOR LEARNING HUB



Joe Roughton

Senior Youth & Community
Development Worker

ENGAGE Youth & Families Service

Tel: 07858 161 979

Joe.engageproject@gmail.com



Ruth Barnard

Youth & Families Worker

ENGAGE Youth & Families Service

Ruth.engageproject@gmail.com



SITE MAP

Designated Safeguard Lead Contacts

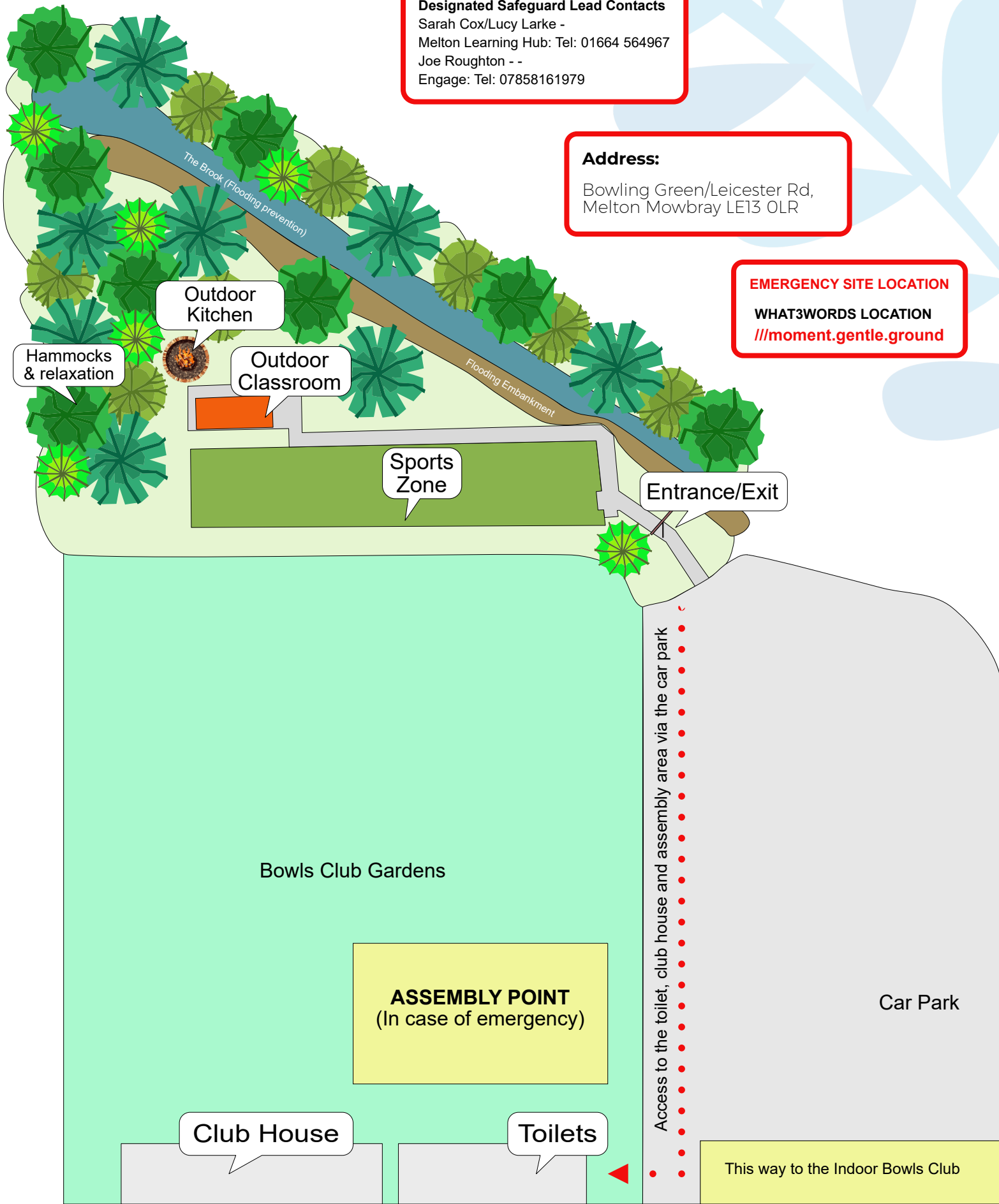
Sarah Cox/Lucy Larke -
Melton Learning Hub: Tel: 01664 564967
Joe Roughton - -
Engage: Tel: 07858161979

Address:

Bowling Green/Leicester Rd,
Melton Mowbray LE13 0LR

EMERGENCY SITE LOCATION

WHAT3WORDS LOCATION
///moment.gentle.ground



Melton Outdoor Learning Hub

Melton Outdoor Learning Hub offers a diverse and engaging environment where young people can access a wide range of nature-based and experiential activities designed to support their personal, social, and emotional development.

Key Features of the Site:

- **Outdoor Classroom:** A central base for the day, providing a space to store personal belongings, change into outdoor footwear, and access site resources.
- **Covered Activity Area:** A versatile sheltered space used for practical hands-on sessions such as woodworking and outdoor cooking.
- **Open-Fire Outdoor Kitchen:** An area dedicated to fire-based cooking activities, promoting teamwork, independence, and life skills.
- **Woodland Area:** A calming space for hammock use and sensory-based relaxation, supporting well-being and emotional regulation.
- **Sports Zone:** A flexible activity space for football, badminton, boccia, and other inclusive sports and games that promote physical health and social interaction.
- **Gardening Zones:** Areas for young people to engage in planting and maintaining wildflowers, herbs, and vegetables, encouraging environmental responsibility and mindfulness.
- **Target Range:** Supervised zones for archery and target shooting, helping to build focus, coordination, and confidence.
- **Pond Dipping Area:** A dedicated nature exploration area supporting curiosity, ecological awareness, and hands-on learning.
- In addition, we have access to a large indoor **Club House** which provides a warm, safe environment for indoor learning, creative projects, and social time, particularly during adverse weather.

Our aim is to create a welcoming, inclusive space where young people can connect with nature, develop practical skills, and build confidence through positive outdoor experiences.



What do we/you need prior to sessions commencing.

Prior to working with young people, we will provide the following to your organisation/school:

- DBS numbers.
- Risk Assessments.
- Public indemnity and insurance details.
- Any policies you require.

Before we can work with young people, we will require the following information:

- Referral forms for each young person to be submitted to us.
- A key contact number of a staff member in your organisation/school that we can contact during our sessions.
- Parental consent forms for each young person to be completed prior to work commencing.

For group work, please consider:

- Our group sizes are a maximum of 4 young people. If there is only 1 young person available for the session, it is no longer a group and the session will be cancelled. This may incur a charge for late cancellations.
- The school/organisation is responsible for contacting Engage staff prior to sessions so that we are aware of any concerns or changes.
- You can contact **Joe Roughton**, Senior Youth & Community Development Worker on **07858 161 979** or **joe.engageproject@gmail.com**



What young people need to bring with them each week

To ensure young people are comfortable, safe and able to fully participate in activities, please make sure they bring the following items each week:

- Appropriate footwear, including wellington boots for wet or muddy conditions.
- Clothing suitable for the weather and season (e.g. warm layers, sun hats, gloves).
- A waterproof coat.
- A packed lunch, a healthy snack, and a refillable drinks bottle.

We recommend labelling all items with the young person's name to prevent them from getting lost.



What Young People Can Expect

At Melton Outdoor Learning Hub, we offer a broad and inclusive range of seasonal activities designed to meet the diverse needs and interests of the young people we work with. Our programme is responsive to the group and individual needs, and includes both structured routines and flexible opportunities for learning, skill-building, and personal development.

Bushcraft and Forest School Activities

Young people can engage in practical outdoor learning through:

- Fire lighting and safe firecraft techniques
- Woodwork using hand tools
- Outdoor cooking and meal preparation
- Nature-based crafts
- Ecological and environmental projects
- Site and woodland exploration
- Pond dipping and wildlife observation

Sports and Physical Activities

We promote physical wellbeing and positive risk-taking through:

- Target-based activities such as air rifle shooting and archery
- Team games including football and badminton
- Inclusive sports such as boccia and lawn bowls

Therapeutic and Wellbeing-Focused Activities

To support emotional regulation and wellbeing, we include:

- Forest bathing and time in nature
- Use of hammocks and quiet woodland spaces
- Guided mindfulness and grounding activities

Creative Arts and Crafts

A range of nature-inspired arts and crafts projects are offered throughout the year, allowing young people to explore self-expression and creativity in an outdoor setting.

Site Routines and Stewardship

Young people are supported to take ownership and care of the environment through:

- Garden and vegetable patch maintenance
- General site upkeep and improvement tasks
- Litter picking and sustainability awareness
- Collecting and managing water resources

Our approach places emphasis on developing confidence, connection to nature, and transferable life skills in a safe, supported and engaging environment. Activities are embedded in a youth work framework that promotes social and emotional learning alongside practical skill development.

**Forms we require for each young person
prior to taking part in group work.**



ENGAGE Referral Form

Referrer Information			
Your Name		Tel No.	
Your Position		Your Organisation	
Your Email			

Information about the Young Person & Parent/s or Carer/s			
	Young Person		Parents/Carer
Name			
Preferred Name			
Address			
Telephone			
Email			
Young Person's Date of Birth		Young Person's gender at birth	
Preferred pronouns		How does the young person gender identify?	

What are the issues you are concerned with? Please provide as much detail as you can:

	Please tick relevant boxes	Yes	No	Unsure
Could this young person/family pose a risk to our staff during a home visit?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the young person have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the young person live with a parent/s with a mental illness (e.g., depression, anxiety)?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you spoken to the parents/young person about your referral to ENGAGE?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What other agencies are working with the young person/family? Please tick all that apply

Social Services <input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Offending Team <input type="checkbox"/>	CAMHS <input type="checkbox"/>	Police <input type="checkbox"/>	Early Help <input type="checkbox"/>	Counselling Services <input type="checkbox"/>
Details of agencies:					

Which of these apply to the young person? Please tick all that apply

Anti-social behaviour <input type="checkbox"/>	Child Sexual Exploitation <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Misuse <input type="checkbox"/>	Goes missing <input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Abuse <input type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health concerns <input type="checkbox"/>	Child Criminal Exploitation <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Educational Needs <input type="checkbox"/>	Bereavement <input type="checkbox"/>	At risk of school exclusion <input type="checkbox"/>
If ticked, please provide details:				

Are there any specific issues you want us to focus on?

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ENGAGE ACTIVITY & MEDICAL CONSENT FORM

Please complete this form and hand in to an ENGAGE member of staff. The information on this form is private and confidential and will only be used in an emergency.

It is important to complete all sections



YOUNG PERSON DETAILS

Name:

Date of Birth:

Gender:

Current School:

CONTACT DETAILS

Home Address:

Post Code:

Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

NEXT OF KIN DETAILS

Name:

Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

MEDICAL DETAILS

Doctors Name:

Doctors Address:

Doctors Phone No.:

OTHER MEDICAL INFORMATION

(a). Please tell us of any Special educational needs and disabilities

(b). Please list any known allergies eg antibiotics, plasters, aspirin, other medicines or food

(c). Please specify any dietary requirements for example, vegetarian, halal, gluten free etc.

(d). Please give details of any known medical condition e.g. asthma, migraine, hay fever.

(e). Please give details of any medicine or treatments being taken.

MEDIA

We are proud of the work we do and like to record our work, with this in mind, a photo or video record of any events may be taken for display or promotional purposes through our website, social media, newspapers, flyers and promotional materials. You must notify any ENGAGE member of Staff should you have any objections.

Signed _____

EMERGENCY PERMISSION

In the event of illness or any accident requiring emergency medical treatment, I authorise any treatment necessary.

Signed _____

The adult signing must be a person with parental responsibility for a child and must have full legal rights over the child.

OTHER PERMISSIONS

☐ By signing this box, you acknowledge that you and/or your son/daughter may contact an ENGAGE youth worker at any time during their working hours up to 9pm. All interactions are recorded for safeguarding purposes and will be shared with their Designated Safeguard Lead.

☐ By signing this box, you acknowledge that your son/daughter can be collected from their educational provision by an ENGAGE Youth Worker and brought back to their provision or to a designation approved by the parent/guardian.

If you need any further information, please call Melton Learning Hub on 01664 564 967.

Forms can be emailed to joe.engageproject@gmail.com

ENGAGE

Youth & Family Support Service



Visit our website to watch a walk-through video of the site. This is a great resource to share with your young people, helping them get a feel for the space ahead of their visit.

www.meltonlearninghub.org/engage

Continue

