



Education and Outreach Officer

The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group is Ireland's premier eNGO working in the marine environment. Established in 1990, the IWDG has built a credible reputation for effective advocacy for cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises) and their habitats. The IWDG is also a primary data holder with unique datasets on cetaceans which we use to support conservation actions and policies. The IWDG currently has five full-time staff and eight part-time service providers. We wish to recruit a full-time **Education and Outreach Officer** on a three-year contract to develop and deliver the IWDG Education and Outreach program, build our advocacy capability and assist in the delivery of the IWDG Strategic plan.

The initial focus of the IWDG **Education and Outreach Officer** role will be to work with existing officers to develop the Education and Outreach Program, prioritising Local Group coordination in the short term.

This role will appeal to a candidate with a strong knowledge of marine conservation and interest in ocean literacy and a desire to communicate the importance of marine protection to a variety of stakeholders and audiences from the general public to government representatives.

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will report to the IWDG Coordination and Communication Officer and work closely with IWDG Officers, especially the Science and Communication Officers. Responsibilities include;

Outreach:

- Primary contact for IWDG Local Groups network
- Support and encourage new IWDG Local Groups
- Networking with existing schemes to deliver this programme i.e. Heritage in Schools, Young Explorers, Ocean Literacy Network, Green Schools
- Prepare and send monthly ezine to IWDG members and subscribers
- Prepare and edit biannual magazine Flukes
- Deliver Whalewatch Ireland annual event on behalf of the IWDG

Education:

- Plan and Manage Floating Classroom onboard RV Celtic Mist
- Provide training to teachers to access IWDG Education resources
- Develop use of Shannon Dolphin Centre through events and school visits
- Contribute to education communication as required by the Communications Officer
- Support IWDG officer network preparing social media content and images
- Link IWDG outputs to UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Reporting

- Develop the Outreach and Education Work Programme with input from other IWDG officers
- Track and report on education programme deliverables from work programme
- Identify potential funding sources and preparing funding applications
- Contribution to annual reporting

Essential skills or experience

- Experience of education or ocean literacy
- Skills in science communication to a diverse range of audiences
- A relevant university degree or equivalent qualifications or experience
- An understanding of marine ecosystems and marine conservation biology
- Experience working as part of a team and independently
- An ability to communicate effectively, both written and verbally
- Organisational and time management skills and the ability to manage and prioritise workloads and deadlines
- Proficiency in working across software platforms: video meetings, word processing, spreadsheets, social media

Desirable skills or experience

- Experience working in marine science or nature conservation
- Competency in Irish language both oral and written

Personal attributes and competencies

- Passion for marine conservation and to engage people with nature conservation
- Familiarity with the IWDG mission and strategic plan
- Enjoy working as part of a team
- Ability to use own initiative and work independently
- Full driving license and ideally own vehicle

Conditions of Employment

This role is based at our head office in Kilrush, Co Clare, but some flexibility will be allowed for some remote working options. The successful candidate will be expected to attend in person IWDG meetings and events and be available for travel within Ireland and internationally when necessary.

This is a **full-time job** as an IWDG employee for a fixed period of **3 years**. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications and will align with recommendations for post-graduates in Ireland and is likely to be in the region of €24,000 per annum.

How to apply

To apply for this position please email your CV and cover letter to ceo@iwdg.ie
Your cover letter should be in pdf format and a maximum of two pages in length. In your letter, please outline your motivation for this position and why you feel you have the skills and experience to succeed in the role.

Please put ***Education and Outreach Officer*** in the email subject line.

Closing date: 31 January 2024 at 5pm