

The junior keeper academy is a 6 week program that is open to children and young people aged 8-11 years old. It runs 1pm – 4pm on Saturday afternoons. The cost of the academy is £105 per person which includes 1 free adult entry during session times. Discounts are available for multiple children from the same family.

The aim of the academy is to give children and young people an insight into the diverse range of work zoo keepers do and why they do it. Each week will contain a mix of classroom activities, worksheets, discussions and practical tasks around the zoo.

Session	Themes	What will we be doing/learning?
1	Introduction to working in zoos and why we have them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How you can keep yourself, each other and the animals safe • Why we need zoos • Help us clean and tidy one of our enclosures
2	Why animals look the way they do and why the enclosures look the way they do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at different habitats and where different animals live. • Look at different adaptations animals have and why they might have happened • Talk about how we meet the animals requirements in the zoo • Have a go at designing an animal enclosure • Undertake some practical work in one of our enclosures
3	What animals eat in the wild and how we feed them in the zoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at what animals eat in the wild and how we cater for their diets in the zoo • Look round our animal kitchen and help us feed some of our animals
4	Moving and transporting animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the right way to handle and move a range of animals including insects, reptiles and other small animals • Look at some of the different equipment we use when handling and moving animals
5	Animal health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at how and why we monitor animal's health • Help us weigh some of our animals
6	Behaviour and Enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at why animals behave in different ways • Help us make some toys and treats to keep our animals happy and stimulated

Each course is limited to 8 places (and will only run with a minimum of 4), which are available on a first come first serve basis (with places only secured by payment). If you would like to enrol a young person, please fill out the attached forms and return with payment. The start dates for this year's courses are **11th September 2021, 8th January 2022 and 23rd April 2022**

There is also a second level which is available for those who have completed this course. Details will be available at the end of the course