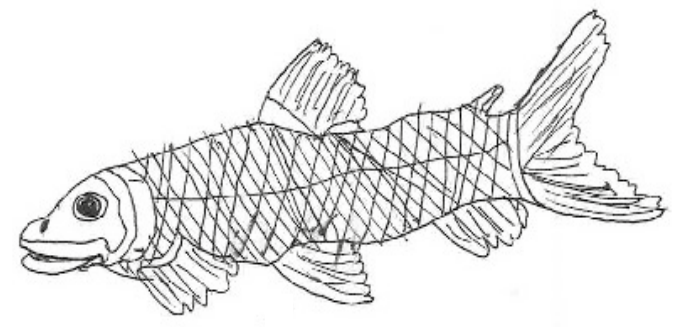
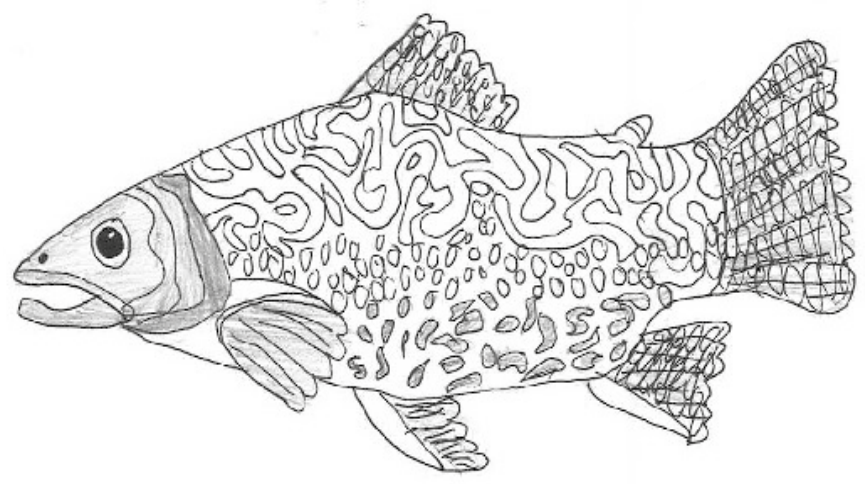
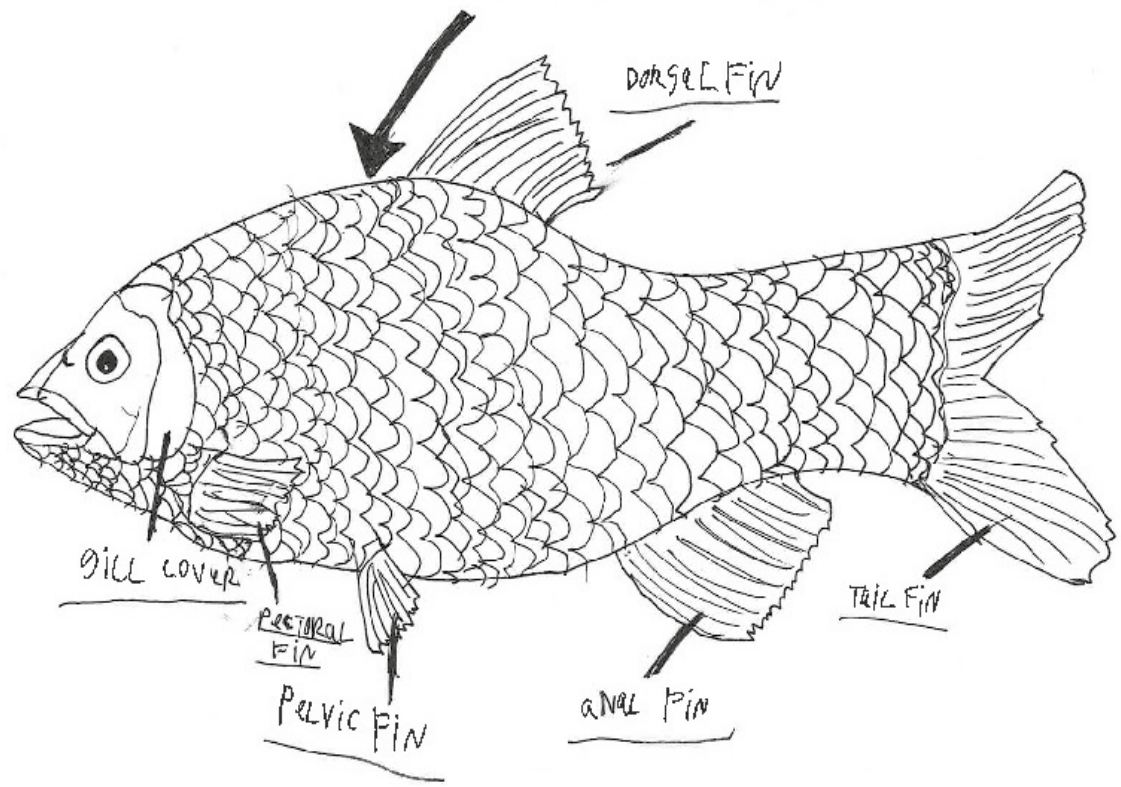


OUR IMPACT 2007-2019



Fishing for Schools 

ROACH RUTILUS RUTILUS 20-45 cm



Illustrations by Lewis Barrington, Rowhill School, Kent



Contents

Introduction	4
Executive Summary	6
Vision	8
The Beginning	8
Selecting Schools	10
Case Study: Yewstock School	11
Approach	12
Impact	13
Reach 2007-2019	14
Case Study: Raynham Primary School	16
Supporting Young People	18
Supporting Schools	19
Our Impact Today	20
Timeline	22



Introduction

In twelve short years, Fishing for Schools has grown from a series of short courses at a Gloucestershire School into a nationally acclaimed initiative, loved by all who come into contact with our simple philosophy - educating through fishing.

Throughout that time, our aim has been unswerving; offer young people opportunity through the many skills that angling has to offer.

Students have delved energetically and enthusiastically into maths, English, conservation, geography, biology, science and importantly, a sense of community and working harmoniously in a group.

We live - rightly or wrongly - in a target led and results driven atmosphere. In a young person's world, the pressure of achievement and adherence to the classroom strictures mounts every term; yet we know learning in the classroom doesn't suit everyone.

As a counterpoint, we offer that crucial educational variance, softness - and originality - to learning, that can so often allow a child to attain and soar in their vital studies. All the while they are being offered a sport for life and a unique insight into a kaleidoscopic natural world and the importance of preserving and enhancing the world for generations to come.

We love what we do.

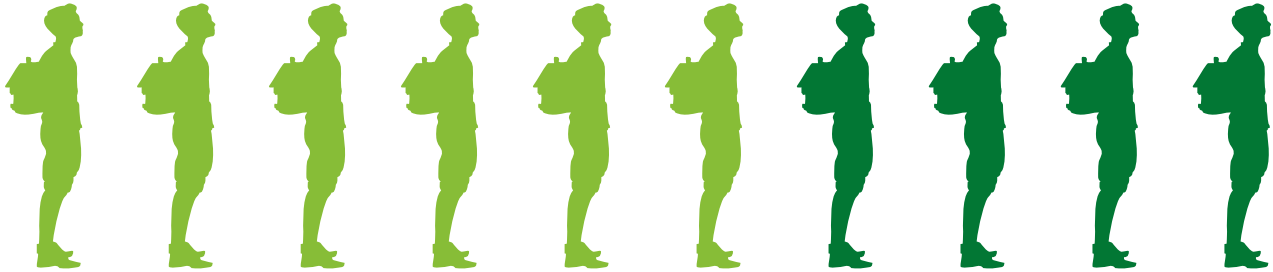


Charles Jardine
Founder and Director, Fishing for Schools



Photography on page 4 and 5 by Mark Fairhurst

Executive Summary



Research by the Children's Commissioner for England has found that the number of teenagers leaving education without achieving 5 GCSEs (grade A*-C) rose to almost 100,000 in 2018; a rise of almost a quarter since 2015. Children receiving free school meals and children with special educational needs are most likely to leave school without reaching the basic levels of attainment.

Since 2007, Fishing for Schools has taken disadvantaged children and young people out of the classroom and into the countryside, helping them re-engage and thrive in school, educational life and beyond the classroom. Our concept is to offer fishing related topics as a way back into formal education and learning.

Pupils benefit hugely from enrichment activities outside the classroom setting, helping build confidence, raise aspirations and self-esteem.

Fishing for Schools offers a unique opportunity for children and young people to step outside their comfort zone and achieve success in something new. We help develop resilience and determination through learning a new skill that requires patience, focus and expertise. We offer an opportunity to experience a new environment and a new activity with people and experts they may not normally meet.

Aimed at 10 to 16-year olds and offered free of charge to schools, the Fishing for Schools remit

extends to primary schools, comprehensive schools, special educational needs schools and pupil referral units.

Over 3,000 children and young people from more than 110 schools across 30 counties in England and Wales have benefitted from learning outdoors and connecting with nature through Fishing for Schools.

As word spread about us, demand grew from schools across the country. As a result, Fishing for Schools introduced a new application process in 2018 whereby schools apply for a place. We now offer our free provision to schools and young people in greatest need.

A cohort of 20 schools have provided vital feedback on the impact of Fishing for Schools on pupil engagement, confidence and self-esteem. 95% of schools strongly agreed our programme was beneficial to pupils, with 85% agreeing it had resulted in improved behaviour.





“

Due to our location as a city centre school and low socio-economic catchment areas, students often do not have the chance to see areas of countryside or the opportunity to participate in out of school clubs or hobbies”.

Teacher, All Saints Catholic High School, Sheffield.

Vision

To be the leading provider of angling education for disadvantaged children and young people in England and Wales, inspiring future generations of anglers and water conservationists.

The Beginning

Fishing for Schools was developed by world renowned fly fisherman Charles Jardine, who saw the potential for angling to educate and enrich learning. Since 2007, Fishing for Schools has taken young people out of the classroom and into the countryside, developing confidence and learning new skills.

Our initial programme was launched to assist students with learning difficulties by offering fishing related activities as a way back into formal education and learning; in the classroom, on field trips, or a combination of both.

Charles delivered our inaugural session at Tewkesbury School in 2007; we now have upwards of 16 coaches supporting young people at over 30 schools annually across the country.

By 2012, mainstream schools were asking to join our programme. It became apparent that our unique provision offered opportunities for young people from a variety of backgrounds and abilities to enjoy learning and gain a wealth of skills through angling.

Today our remit extends to primary and comprehensive schools, special educational needs schools and pupil referral units; offering specialist educational provision to young people who have been permanently excluded from mainstream schools or are at risk of exclusion. We also work with inner city schools where access to the countryside is often limited for pupils.

Fishing for Schools helps support children and young people with complex learning and physical disability needs. We also work with pupils who are experiencing barriers to learning; from low aspirations to a fear of failure. Our work is also embracing the mental health sector: we are working with a number of groups within this sector and also local communities.





Over **110** schools
have benefitted from our free
resource over the last decade



Selecting Schools

Over the last decade demand doubled as more schools heard about our initiative. As a result, in 2018 Fishing for Schools implemented a new application process enabling schools to apply for a place. We now offer our free resource to schools, focusing on young people in greatest need.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

- The application window is live on our website from mid-September for a period of five weeks.
- Schools complete an online application outlining their needs and how they meet our criteria.
- A panel meets to review applications.
- Successful schools are contacted.
- The school is then visited to discuss requirements and learning outcomes.

THE PUPILS:

- Young people struggling to learn in a classroom setting.
- Pupils with complex learning and physical disability needs.
- Young people with Education, Health and Care plans.
- Pupils with additional needs.
- Pupils at risk of being excluded.
- Young people in Local Authority care.
- Pupils identified by schools as lacking in confidence and self-esteem.
- Pupils who do not have access to enriching activities outside of school or access to the countryside.

“

Pupils have a range of learning, social, emotional, behaviour and mental health difficulties. Many of the pupils have ASC and or ADHD diagnosis. This may be further compounded by chaotic or challenging home lives. Increasingly levels of anxiety can cause poor attendance or pupils spending most of their time at home, unable to face the challenge of going out and cope with the demands of social interaction. The impact on mental health and well-being can be debilitating”

Teacher at a school for children with additional needs, Kent



Case Study: Yewstock School

Yewstock School and Sixth Form College supports children and young adults with identified Special Educational Needs.

Teacher (Kevin Viney), Yewstock School:

“Fishing for Schools has been part of our offer in Key Stage 3 now for a number of years. It has provided a tremendous outlet for our pupils to learn about and most importantly experience something new in an environment and using equipment most of them have never encountered before.

Our pupils benefit in terms of their fine and gross motor skills on a physical level. They benefit cognitively by being challenged to listen, learn and action the skills involved in fishing. They benefit in terms of their communication and social interaction skills through working with your tutors and working among themselves in a strange environment.

In short it is frankly hard to overstate how invaluable the Fishing for Schools experience is and has been for the pupils of our school.

It also gives our pupils the chance to try something new, independently and to succeed and that is fantastic in terms of improving their self-esteem and their self-confidence - this is in many ways the most important positive outcome for many of our pupils.”

Yewstock students receiving their medal and certificate at the 2017 Fishing for Schools Champions Awards.



Approach

FISHING FOR SCHOOLS IN THE CLASSROOM

No one child learns in the same way. Our aim is to use angling as a springboard for pupils to understand the basics of education in an exciting and individual way, whilst offering a healthy outdoor hobby that can last a lifetime.

By using fishing as a medium, it allows young people to understand the basics of geography, mathematics – weights, measures, geometry – and literacy. We open up a world of aquatic conservation and preservation and the complex world beneath our rivers, lakes and streams.

OUR FISHING SESSIONS

Our practical fishing sessions provide an opportunity to put into practice topics and subjects learnt in the classroom whilst exploring the exciting possibilities offered by angling. We offer a unique insight into the aquatic environment and creatures that inhabit the areas we fish.

FOLLOW UP – CERTIFICATES/SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

We believe it is vital to maintain a relationship with schools and provide a sense of achievement for the young people that have experienced Fishing for Schools. Every child is important and is worthy of recognition of their achievement. Sharing assemblies and awarding certificates is a vital component of this partnership.

INTER SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

Young people are competitive. In order to meet that desire to succeed, be it football, cricket or fishing, we actively encourage participation in inter-school competitions, whilst always putting fish and fish conservation central to these events.

The Recognised Benefits of Outdoor Learning*:

- Increased physical and mental health
- Enhanced personal and social communication skills
- Development of personal responsibility, respect for others and the natural world
- Enhanced practical problem solving and team work skills
- Enhanced spiritual, sensory, and aesthetic awareness
- An understanding of the need for sustainable relationships between people and their environment
- Increased motivation and focus

*<https://www.englishoutdoorcouncil.org/benefits.of.outdoor.learning.html>



“By adding to their cultural capital in this way, children increase their knowledge of the world and with it, the vocabulary to explain it which benefits all parts of their learning, but particularly, reading and writing.”

Teacher, Raynham School



Impact

Over 3,000 children from 110 schools have benefitted from learning outdoors and connecting with nature via Fishing for Schools.



“

This is a great intervention that brings about lots of small changes without intention: connecting with the outdoors, mindfulness, eye-hand coordination, skills development”

Deputy Head, Broomhill Bank School

Reach

Pupils from 30 counties across England and Wales have experienced our unique offer, in areas including the inner city areas of Manchester, Sheffield, Derby, Swansea, London, and Bristol.

In numbers



schools since 2007



Secondary schools



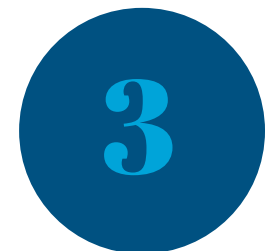
Primary schools



Pupil referral units



Special educational needs schools



Mental health groups

FISHING FOR SCHOOLS HAS NURTURED...



Welsh Angling International



BTEC students



Student mentors



Young people furthering their education in aquiculture at higher education college



A fascination and respect for nature and the natural environment



Key understanding and respect for their local community and individual wellbeing



2007-2019

- Avon
- Berkshire
- Buckinghamshire
- Cambridgeshire
- Cardiff
- Clwyd
- County Durham
- Cumbria
- Derbyshire
- Devon
- Dorset
- Gloucestershire
- Greater Manchester
- Gwynedd
- Hampshire
- Hereford
- Isle of Anglesey
- Kent
- Leicestershire
- Norfolk
- North Yorkshire
- Northamptonshire
- Northumberland
- Shropshire
- Somerset
- South Yorkshire
- Surrey
- Swansea
- West Midlands
- West Sussex
- West Yorkshire
- Wiltshire



Case Study:



Raynham Primary School, Edmonton

Raynham School is a large, urban primary school located next to the North Circular Road in North London, with limited outdoor space and in a community which ranks in the top 10% postcodes for deprivation in the country (IDACI, 2019).

Over 40 different languages are spoken in the school and over 85% of children have English as an additional language. Many of the children lack experience of rural areas or even natural outdoor spaces.

HANNAH BROWN, YEAR 6 TEACHER, TELLS US:

The fishing taster days Fishing for Schools have provided has been truly significant in the lives of our children. First of all, it has enabled the children to gain first-hand experience of their local wetlands, which has contextualised many of the things learnt in both our Science and Humanities curriculum, including classifying living things, water systems and local geography.

Pond-dipping from the large lake brought out an amazing range of creatures which the children were fascinated by and the highly knowledgeable nature guides have been fantastic with the children, capturing their interest which was reciprocated by their hundreds of questions!

Secondly, it has provided the opportunity to try a new skill, with highly trained coaches pushing the children out of their comfort zones. The look of achievement on the faces of each child when they caught a fish said it all.

Finally, this kind of trip as part of our Year 6 curriculum has been beneficial to the mental health of both staff and children. Mindfulness is something that we teach inside the classroom; however, being amongst nature and taking part in a sport that requires so much patience is an enormous mindful experience and we are extremely grateful to Fishing for Schools for introducing it to our school community.

The Year 6 fishing trip is now legendary amongst the children, and often one of the first questions I am asked when I get a new class in September is, "Miss, when are we going fishing?"

“

Thank you for taking us fishing, I really loved the nature walk and seeing all the birds and plants. Pond dipping was great – we caught loads of water scorpions! Fishing was something I had never done before but I enjoyed it.”

Raynham pupil

Supporting Young People

WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE RE-ENGAGE AT SCHOOL

A study by the Children's Commissioner for England has revealed that almost 100,000 teenagers left education without achieving five A*-C GCSEs or the equivalent in 2018; a rise of almost a quarter since 2015. Special Educational Needs (SEN) students are the worst affected, with the attainment gap between SEN and non-SEN pupils rising to 33% in 2018. The number of free school meals children leaving education without the benchmark qualification has risen from 28% to 37%.

Fishing for Schools offers a unique platform to support children and young people struggling in the classroom, helping young people re-engage and thrive in school, educational life and beyond the classroom.



The pupils at Rowhill have behaviour and learning difficulties, so it is very important to find positive activities that the pupils will engage in and enjoy. Success in an activity generates confidence and has a positive impact on engagement in other school activities"

Head of Secondary, Rowhill School

WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TO GROW IN CONFIDENCE AND FULFILL THEIR POTENTIAL

Research illustrates the benefits of angling to young people. From improving self-esteem, raising aspirations and increasing educational attainment, angling has a positive influence. (*Fishing for Answers: Final Report of The Social and Community Benefits of Angling Project, Substance, 2012*)

Fishing for Schools offers young people the ability to step outside of their comfort zone and experience new opportunities and a real sense of achievement. Students develop

new skills in a fun, active and engaging way. Young people learn vital life skills including team building, leadership, communication, decision making and problem solving. We help build resilience and determination through practicing a new skill requiring patience and expertise.



The young people thoroughly enjoyed the Fishing for Schools sessions. They improved their practical skills. They learnt how to complete written tasks for portfolio work. They improved their social skills. They demonstrated their ability to work as part of a group / team with both staff and peers."

SENCO, Kent school

WE HELP THE DEVELOPMENT OF POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH

Every year, one young person in ten experiences a mental health problem. The most common mental health problem affecting children are conduct disorders (behaviour problems). Children from low-income families are four times more likely to experience mental health problems. Similarly children affected by learning disabilities are four times more likely to have a diagnosable emotional mental health problem. (*Centre for Mental Health, 2018*)

Fishing for Schools has a positive and beneficial impact on young people's mental health and well-being through:

- Increased confidence, motivation and a sense of achievement, success and self-worth.
- Improved emotional well-being through time spent outside in a tranquil environment.
- A welcome therapeutic break from routine.
- Improved friendships and social interactions; providing shared interest and discussion points for teachers, peers, family and friends.



Supporting Schools

- We offer a free resource to schools delivered over four sessions.
- We assist schools in delivering their outdoor learning strategy by providing a positive outdoor experience to young people.
- We help enhance the curriculum through linking sessions to key subjects.
- Objectives are agreed in conjunction with school staff and students.
- A post course evaluation process ensures detailed feedback from schools and continuous course improvement.

WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

- We engage pupils in key curriculum subjects including engineering, science, geography, cookery, ICT and maths, whilst also being engaging and fun.
- We improve academic achievement and enable youngsters to actively work towards qualifications including:
 - The Awards Scheme Development Accreditation Network (ASDAN) qualification.
 - The Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE).
 - BTEC Qualification.
 - AIM Awards.
 - The Angling Trust's CAST Award.
 - Fishing for Schools compliments the skills section of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards or the Princes Trust Achieve programme.
- Our programme offers a range of experiences that help develop key life skills including team building, leadership, enquiry and thinking skills. We help deepen and enrich learning.

Positive experiences of education are vital to securing good educational outcomes for children and young people



Our Impact Today

In the 9 months to September 2019 Fishing for Schools supported 320 young people across England and Wales. 20 schools completed a detailed survey to measure the impact of the programme. The results have shown that:



85%

agreed/strongly agreed the programme resulted in improved behaviour



95%

strongly agreed the sessions were beneficial to pupils



75%

agreed/strongly agreed the programme resulted in improved attendance

“As a school we appreciate the on-going support we receive from Fishing for Schools; it’s a big part of our school and the impact it has on our pupils is profound”

Deputy Head, Orchard School



100%

agreed/strongly agreed
the programme resulted
in improved engagement



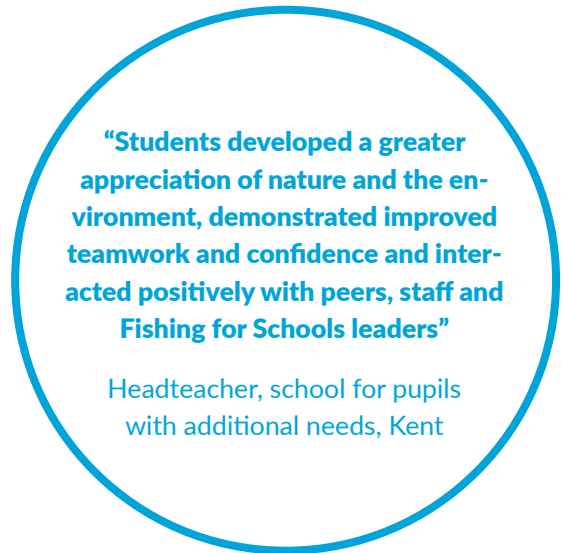
90%

strongly agreed the
programme helped
develop new skills



90%

strongly agreed
the programme
helped increase
confidence



“Students developed a greater appreciation of nature and the environment, demonstrated improved teamwork and confidence and interacted positively with peers, staff and Fishing for Schools leaders”

Headteacher, school for pupils with additional needs, Kent



70%

strongly agreed the programme
resulted in improved self esteem

Timeline

2007

First session at
Tewkesbury School

2013

First Open Day at Meon
Springs, Hampshire.

Fishing for Schools sea
fishing session, Medway City
Estate

Fundraising event at
Hurdcott House in
September 2013 which
raised almost £60,000 in
aid of Fishing for Schools.

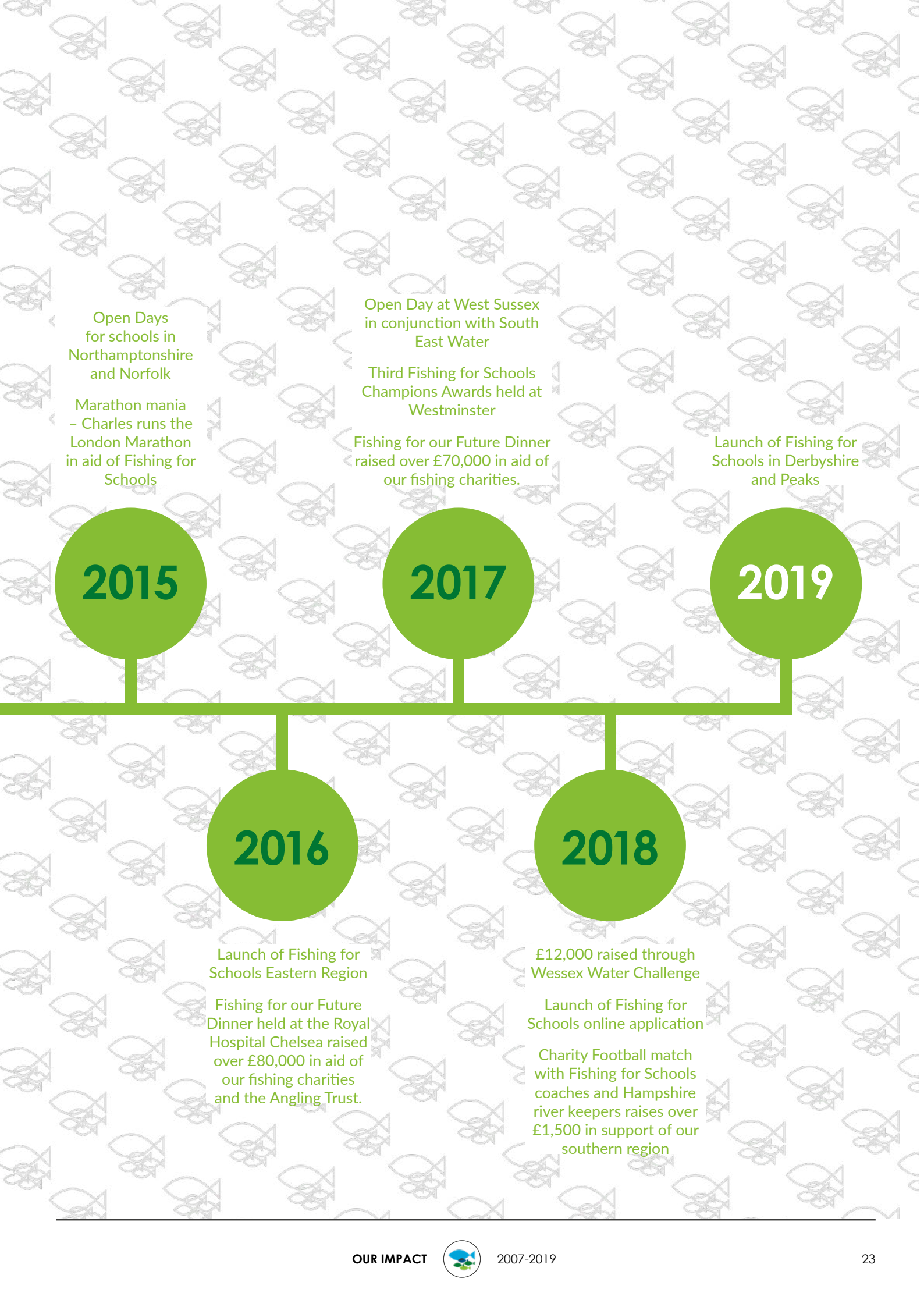
2012

Inaugural Champions
Awards event at
Westminster

2014

Open day at Theale

Second Fishing for
Schools Champions
Awards at
Westminster



Open Days for schools in Northamptonshire and Norfolk

Marathon mania - Charles runs the London Marathon in aid of Fishing for Schools

Open Day at West Sussex in conjunction with South East Water

Third Fishing for Schools Champions Awards held at Westminster

Fishing for our Future Dinner raised over £70,000 in aid of our fishing charities.

Launch of Fishing for Schools in Derbyshire and Peaks

2015

2017

2019

2016

2018

Launch of Fishing for Schools Eastern Region

Fishing for our Future Dinner held at the Royal Hospital Chelsea raised over £80,000 in aid of our fishing charities and the Angling Trust.

£12,000 raised through Wessex Water Challenge

Launch of Fishing for Schools online application

Charity Football match with Fishing for Schools coaches and Hampshire river keepers raises over £1,500 in support of our southern region



Fishing for Schools

countryside-alliance.org/fishing-for-schools

Email: fishing@ca-foundation.org

Telephone: 020 7840 9212

Facebook: [fishingforschools](https://www.facebook.com/fishingforschools)

Twitter: [@fishing_schools](https://twitter.com/fishing_schools)

Registered charity no: 1121034