



Volunteer FAQs

HOW MUCH TIME DO I NEED TO VOLUNTEER FOR?

The amount of time needed is different for each role, and depends on how much time you have to give. Some roles require a regular time commitment, others are more flexible or short term only.

CAN I BE PAID TO COVER MY EXPENSES?

We reimburse reasonable expenses that arise from volunteering, such as travel.

CAN I CLAIM BENEFITS WHILE VOLUNTEERING?

Yes. Volunteering does not affect your benefits, as long as you continue to meet the conditions of the benefit or tax credit you receive, for instance, if you are on Job Seekers Allowance, actively seeking a job and being able to attend interviews. It is always worth checking with your Job Centre.

I'M WORKING FULL-TIME, CAN I STILL VOLUNTEER?

Yes, there will be some ad-hoc weekend work that could fit around full-time employment.

DO I NEED ANY SKILLS OR QUALIFICATIONS?

Our volunteer roles don't require special skills or qualifications and you will be given an induction and any training you need.



CAN I GET A QUALIFICATION?

Although we cannot help volunteers obtain formal qualifications such as an NVQ, we can help you keep a record of your volunteering activities and training. Even if you can't get a qualification, volunteering will make you more employable as you gain valuable experience, skills and a reference.

WILL I BE INTERVIEWED?

Most volunteering opportunities will entail an informal discussion, so that you can find out more about us and the opportunity you are interested in. We do ask for two references and a DBS check will be necessary for some roles.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL I GET?

We will make sure that you have what you need to perform your role and you know who to go to if you have a question or a problem. We will also regularly review what you are doing with you and give you the opportunity to make changes where necessary.

CAN I LEAVE IF I DON'T LIKE IT?

Yes, of course you can. If you are unhappy, it is always worth talking to the Volunteer Coordinator beforehand to see if there is anything they can do to improve your experience, such as changing your role to something you find more enjoyable.

AM I TOO OLD?

No – as long as you are over 18, age is not a barrier if you can offer your time, energy and skills.