

Volunteer Mentor Role Description

Role Title: Volunteer Mentor

Responsible to: Mentoring Development Worker

Main role

To offer a social, educational and recreational service to young people aged between 12-18 years old who are in care, to assist in lessening the feelings of loneliness and isolation that young people in care may feel and to encourage young people to have goals and aspirations for their future.

Roles involved in mentoring

- To meet and build a relationship with a young person in care.
- To actively participate in social and recreational activities with the young person.
- To talk to young people about school, their homework and their future.
- To encourage the young person to attend group recreational activities with other young people.

Tasks involved in mentoring

- Complete an accredited training programme.
- Attend and actively participate in monthly supervision sessions.
- Participate in other activities where required e.g. training and team building days.
- Maintain appropriate records of activities and expenditure.
- Complete weekly contact forms.

Time Commitment

- Volunteer Mentors should commit to the project for one year (upon matching).
- To attend an accredited training programme (evenings and weekends).
- Meetings with the young people will take place on a weekly basis for 2-3 hours per visit, and should take place at a suitable location and at an appropriate time. (This may involve activities at the weekend and evening)
- Volunteer Mentors should be aware of committing time to monthly supervision sessions.

Expenses

- Volunteer Mentors will be given a monthly allowance for activities with the young person, receipts should be kept and the money should be budgeted.
- Travel expenses can be claimed, and a form must be filled out for the Volunteer Mentor to be reimbursed.

Personal specification

Volunteer role: Volunteer Mentor

CATEGORY	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Experience		Experience of working with young people in a group or on a one to one basis
Skills	Communication skills with young people and adults.	Active listening skills. Administration skills. Planning skills i.e. for activities. Managing and budgeting money for activities. Ability to motivate
Personal qualities	Reliable, Open minded, Approachable, Impartial, Patient, Non-judgemental, Respect of other peoples beliefs and cultures, Enthusiastic.	Good sense of humour.
Special requirements	Commitment to the Mentoring project. Commitment to the young person for one full year. Volunteers must be over eighteen years of age.	A knowledge and understanding of issues affecting young people in care. Willing to use own car or public transport. An awareness of youth culture and the issues for young people.