

VOLUNTEER HELPER ROLE DESCRIPTION

1. PURPOSE OF JOB:

In the classroom, your volunteer work could include:

- Supporting children with reading. Learning to read is a vital skill, but it can take time and practice to master. Any support you can offer may have a significant impact on a child's progress and future success in school. You may also be asked to read stories to children, which greatly benefits their language development and overall literacy skills.
- Sharing your professional expertise. For example, if you're a chef, you could talk to children about nutrition and food preparation, giving them a practical, real-world perspective on a relevant part of the curriculum.
- Supporting school trips. Schools require a certain number of adults to accompany pupils on visits, but they can't always release enough teaching staff. By volunteering, you help ensure these valuable experiences can go ahead, giving children opportunities they might otherwise miss.
- Supporting classroom routines. Volunteer classroom assistants can help with tasks such as, settling pupils in at the start of the day, photocopying resources, preparing displays, answering questions during lessons, or working with individuals and small groups. They may also help with story time. This support allows the teacher to concentrate more fully on delivering the lesson.

2. BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING IN SCHOOLS

The benefits of being a volunteer in school can be wide-ranging, and include:

- Gaining experience — if you're thinking of starting a career in education, the experience of working in a school before you commit to it can help you decide if the career path is right for you. You will have the opportunity to work with and observe experienced teachers, get to know the curriculum, and develop the necessary skills for more permanent roles.
- Improving outcomes — One of the reasons that volunteer roles are so popular is that they're extremely rewarding. Volunteers feel as though they can make a difference, whether that's in making lessons more interesting, helping a child learn to read, or making sure there are enough adults to accompany the class on an exciting trip. Schools are always appreciative of the work that volunteers do for them.

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERING IN SCHOOLS

Before you volunteer in a school, it's useful to know what is required of you. Below, we will discuss the different requirements and the skills that you may need to succeed in your volunteer role include:

- An understanding of and commitment to safeguarding children.
- Enthusiasm and a can-do attitude.
- A good work ethic.
- Friendliness.
- Passion for education or helping others.
- Excellent people skills

4. We will consider:

- Your reasons for applying.
- Your previous experience, qualifications, skills, or training (including previous voluntary work experience).
- Expectations of roles and responsibilities.
- Child protection issues.
- Previous convictions (if relevant)
- References
- Your availability.

A DBS check is required before starting. Training, including safeguarding and an induction, will be provided.