

Role Description: **Outdoor Learning volunteer**

Volunteering for the Education Futures Trust, in public areas, schools and partner organisations, Outdoor Learning volunteers will help EFT staff to remove barriers and promote engagement for the people who use our services. Within a very flexible role, volunteers can offer services, advice, support and understanding to children, young people, and adults, where appropriate, that they may deal with.

We embed wellbeing and education in all our courses and activities; however, a volunteer's role can vary depending on participant age and venue. Outdoor learning covers our Forest School and Shore Academy work with under 5s and primary age children, and whittling, bushcraft, DIY and conservation work with adults.

In Children's Forest School or Shore Academy sessions your role will be to help set-up for the session, discussing with the group lead your role during the activities, as this will vary from session to session, whilst also helping to ensure children stay safe around tools, fire or the sea, and then helping to clear away afterwards.

Roles working with adults can vary; some volunteers are more suited to a support role, working alongside participants who need gentle encouragement and wellbeing support. Some volunteers are more suited to helping participants in conservation, tool, and fire safety. As with children's sessions, activities and your role for the session will be discussed with the group lead.

Key aims:

1. To provide a high-quality service to participants
2. To improve the experience and learning of participants
3. To listen to and support participants
4. To assist in the running of services and supporting staff when required
5. To assist in developing an effective and well-regarded service

Main areas of Responsibility

- Assist with retention of participants, by providing welcoming, friendly, and non-judgemental atmosphere
- Listen to others and provide empathetic responses

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- Feedback any concerns about, or from, participants, schools and other beneficiaries to group lead or Volunteer Coordinator
- Provide an “extra pair of hands” for various tasks, to ensure the smooth running of activities
- There will be elements in the role that will follow a routine, such as setting up and clearing away, but a large percentage of the work will vary according to the needs of that day and participants
- Supporting the service leads, by providing assistance with equipment
- Assist in organisation and transportation of materials needed for the courses
- Providing regular feedback on the effectiveness of the service as requested
- To undertake other duties which may be identified as necessary
- To carry out the above duties in accordance with the equal opportunities policy at the Education Futures Trust.

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