

Volunteering opportunity

Contact email for all enquiries: volunteering@whocaresScotland.org

Name of Organisation: Who Cares? Scotland

Title of Volunteer opportunity: Community Schools/Participation Volunteer

ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY

Community Schools Volunteer:

Purpose and Aims of the role:

We are looking for volunteers who can provide a strong foundation to help strengthen their communities by helping Care Experienced children and young people engage in activities to build their skills and confidence and to be included, understood, respected, and valued in their communities.

The Community Schools volunteer role will work alongside our innovative and energetic Clackmannanshire Who Cares? Scotland project team and will lead and support on educating and raising awareness of Care Experience to Secondary School pupils and all school staff through assemblies, PSE sessions and drop-ins.

Community Schools Volunteers will help to raise awareness of Care Experience, work towards ending stigma and injustice that Care Experience people can face and be part of influencing transformational change. This role will help build community strengths for Care Experienced people and provide social networks to help build resilience and positive outcomes for children and young people.

To build on this school work and embed inclusion and belonging, the team are looking to develop a participation group for Care Experienced young people to attend weekly in the evenings. This role will involve interacting with young people through supporting and leading on a variety of activities e.g. arts/crafts/sports/general youth work at our weekly sessions as well as at our National events that happen throughout the year.

Would you like to share your skills and experience to help ensure young people understand the lives of Care Experienced young people and the challenges they can face.

We invest in our people, our relationships and in a positive working culture. It's important to us that our volunteer team is included, involved and motivated to change society.

We aim to recruit people with excellent qualities from a wide variety of backgrounds who share in our mission. We particularly welcome applications from individuals with Care Experience.

What will I be doing?

- Learning about rights, legislation and policy which relates to issues faced by Care Experienced people.
- Learning about creative methods of sharing personal experiences.
- Observing others sharing personal experiences.
- Learning and supporting ways to educate Secondary school pupils and school staff on Care Experience to influence change.
- Contributing to, and leading presentations and discussions through assemblies, PSE sessions and drop-ins, with staff support.
- Building relationships with teachers and schools through delivering this work.
- Helping to reduce stigma for Care Experienced young people within schools.
- Being a positive role model.
- Helping young people to have fun
- Supporting staff to undertake activities
- Leading on activities

What skills can I bring to this role?

- A knowledge and understanding of issues affecting Care Experienced people.
- Ability to work well in a team.
- Ability to work in a school setting.
- Good communication and listening skills.
- Ability to encourage and motivate others to participate in activities.
- Strong presentation and facilitation skills.

What qualities do I need?

- To have a non-judgemental approach to people, have empathy.
- Be enthusiastic, flexible and committed.
- Reliable and approachable.
- Friendly, helpful and understanding.
- A commitment to treat all information in a confidential manner.
- To have a good value base, be open minded and level-headed.

When will I be needed?

- After initial training and information, this project will be starting in August 2023 with hopes of volunteers starting by Autumn.
- The participation group will be looking to start once the project has been established in schools.
- The role may have a blended approach between online and face-to-face in the schools.
- Availability during the day Monday to Friday is essential for the schools work.
- We ask for a minimum of 2 hours per week/fortnightly to include the schools work during the day and the participation group weekly in the evening.

What will I gain from the role?

- A sense of satisfaction in raising awareness and promoting positive change in schools.
- Experience of working alongside an influencing team.
- Knowledge of Government/ Corporate Parenting roles and policies.
- Practical experience of working in a team.
- Experience working with school pupils and staff.
- Have fun!

What support will I be given?

- Induction
- Role specific training and information
- Expenses – all out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed
- Supervision and support from your key staff and Volunteer Officer.
- Group supervision/peer support sessions with other volunteers and staff delivering education inputs

Additional Information

For all roles involving regulated work with children and young people, applicants will be required to submit a PVG Scheme Record or a PVG Scheme Record Update application. This opportunity is subject to the completion of satisfactory references and successful registration on the PVG Scheme.

How to apply: please complete a short application form on our website - <https://www.whocaresscotland.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

This role involves the following:

Children

National and local participation sessions

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Young people

All volunteers will be subject to application form, interview, reference and PVG Checks

Community Schools Volunteer
Person Specification

	Desirable Criteria	Essential Criteria
Personal Qualities		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confident and enthusiastic• Engaging manner• Ability to work as part of a team• To have a non-judgemental approach to people, have empathy• Reliable and approachable• Friendly, helpful and understanding• Open minded and level-headed• Passionate• Committed
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with children and young people• Working in a school setting• Motivating and encouraging young people to influence change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of Care Experience
Skills & Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ability to work with large groups• Knowledge of the rights, legislation and policy which relates to issues faced by Care Experienced people• Ability to encourage and motivate children and young people to participate in activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ability to interact with children and young people• Good communication and listening skills• Ability to work as part of a team• Build trusting relationships with children and young people• Presentation and facilitation skills
Special Requirements	Access to a car as travel is required to different schools	

