



Volunteering Skills

Introductions

April 19

[What is Volunteering]

- Volunteering is simple. It's about giving your time to do something useful, without getting paid.
- In return you get the satisfaction of time and effort well spent.
- In addition, volunteering can be a great way to: meet new people learn new skills gain useful experience.
- The range of opportunities is huge. Whatever skills and experience you have, there is something that you can do.

[Background information]

- People that volunteer
- Reasons for volunteering

Frequently Asked Questions

- How much time do I need to give?
- How long will I have to commit for?
- What skills will I need?
- Will I get my expenses paid?
- What can I expect as a volunteer?
- Can I claim benefits while volunteering?

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

- I am not a British national, can I volunteer in the UK?
- What will I be doing?
- How does it help work towards the aims of the organisation?
- Who do I tell if I have a problem?

What can I expect as a volunteer

All AY Group volunteers can expect:-

- A role description
- An induction
- A named supervisor
- Continued support and supervision
- A safe working environment
- Reward and Recognition
- Training relevant to their role
- To gain experience
- Increase confidence
- Ongoing support
- Develop their skills
- References for paid work (if you commit to at least three months of volunteering)
- The chance to become an AY Group board member, helping to shape AY Groups future.

[Exercise One]

- Good Volunteer



- Bad volunteer



Volunteering and Your Career

- Get involved
- Improve your prospects
- Develop new skills
- Build your confidence and show future employees you've got drive and initiative.

Volunteering and Your Career (continued)

Voluntary Sector Jobs

- Try volunteering before getting into paid work
- volunteering is sometimes a pre-requisite.
- Many successful careers are gained through volunteering

[Public sector jobs]

- Volunteering can have a similar benefit if you want to work in the public sector. Many public sector employers, such as hospitals, involve lots of volunteers. So volunteering yourself can give you an inside view on the organisation.
- For some public sector careers, such as social work, relevant voluntary experience might be required in order to access, or as part of, training courses.

[Career Development]

- Wherever you work, skills and experience gained through volunteering can prove useful.
- If you want volunteering to help boost your career think carefully about the skills and experience you need.

[Tips to Help]

- Think about what you want from volunteering - new skills, fun, a chance to contribute to a cause?
- Think about what you have to offer - enthusiasm, work skills, life skills?
- Work out roughly how much time you have to give and how frequently you are able to do this.

[What you need!]

- Sincerity
- Passion
- Innovation
- Risk taking
- Inclusiveness
- Think about what you would really like to achieve

[Volunteers Agreements]

Although volunteer agreements are not legally binding they are useful as they set out the expectations of both the volunteer and the organisation.

Among the commitments the organisation might take are:

- To provide a full induction and any other training as necessary for the volunteer role.
- To provide a named supervisor for the volunteer with regular supervision meetings.
- To reimburse out of pocket expenses.

[Thank you]

Any questions