



BEFRIENDER (VOLUNTEER INDEPENDENT VISITOR)*

Location: Community based

Suggested Time Commitment: 2 hours every 2 weeks

We are looking for volunteers (21yrs+) to befriend a child or young person in care or leaving care. To provide opportunities for them to develop a meaningful, long-term relationship.

WHO ARE BLGC?

At BLGC we welcome over 4,000 young people through our doors every year. Now one of the largest youth clubs in the UK with a state-of-art base, Infinity, we have something for everyone including sports, arts, mentoring and community outreach work as well as some extras for those who need it most.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO

- Can establish a positive, stable and long-term relationship with a young person.
- Is reliable, non-judgemental, a good listener and able to engage with a child/young person.
- Can promote the young persons developmental, social, emotional, cultural and religious needs.
- Can value and respect the wishes and feelings of the child or young person and where necessary can advocate on their behalf.
- Can adhere to policies and procedures at all times with emphasis on confidentiality, safeguarding, health & safety and relevant local authority procedures.
- **Is 21+ years old**
- **Has a full UK driving licence and access to a vehicle.**

WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO BE DOING?

- Meeting with the young person on a regular basis in the community for a couple of hours.
- Engage with the young person in recreational/educational and fun activities.
- Help them to explore new experiences to build their self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Act as a positive role model for the young person.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

- You will receive a thorough induction programme and training for the role.
- You will receive quarterly supervisions and ongoing support from a member of the team.
- You will make a real difference to a young persons life.
- You will have opportunities to meet with other volunteers and young people.
- Out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed.

***All local authorities have a statutory duty to provide an Independent Visitors service in accordance with the Children's Act 1989 and The Children and Young Persons Act 2008.**

CALL 01204 540119 EMAIL VOLUNTEERING@BLGC.CO.UK

Registered Charity No: 1051292

