

Families First Volunteer Role Description

Volunteer Role:	1:1 Befriending Volunteer – Befriending Service
When:	Regular befriending sessions happen on weekdays, from 3:30-5pm, on a fortnightly schedule. Some befriending sessions are at lunchtime or weekly dependant on the service user's needs and volunteer availability.
Main Purpose:	To build a supportive, consistent relationship with a child (usually 5-11 years old), which provides companionship and positive experiences. Volunteers support the child in managing the challenges they face in life by spending time with them to talk, listen and engage in activities together.
Main Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be a positive role model for service users and build a trusting relationship with your match, through having fun together and engaging in the child's interests and conversations.• Encourage or suggest activities during the session that fit with the service user's interests and which would enhance their life.• Help with planning activities when appropriate.• Be proactive with encouraging cleaning and tidying after sessions.• Complete session report and debrief fully with staff after sessions.• Follow Families First Policies and Procedures, including Child and Adult Protection and Confidentiality.
Personal Qualities:	Befriending Volunteers are kind, compassionate, patient, enthusiastic, reliable and friendly. They communicate well with children and adults. Befriending Volunteers are empathetic towards individuals with additional support needs or adverse childhood experiences and are willing to learn how to manage certain behaviours as needed.
Supported by:	<p>The Befriending Coordinator and Youth Worker provide support during sessions and organise the session schedule.</p> <p>The Volunteer Coordinator provides regular Support and Supervision meetings, to provide time for reflection, discussion of well-being, and feedback.</p>
PVG Check?	This is a regulated role which requires a Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Disclosure Check, for children.
Expenses?	Expenses are reimbursed. Any miles driven will be reimbursed at £0.45 per mile, and staff will assist with the completion of expense forms.
Training:	Initial training will include an introduction to volunteering with Families First, Child and Adult Protection and relevant Health and Safety. Ongoing training opportunities will be provided.