

5s to 13s Befriender Role Description

Role/ Title	5s to 13s Befriender
Responsible to (main point of contact)	Sam Hunt 5s to 13s Befriending Manager
Description	A volunteer befriender offers non-judgemental support and friendship to a focus child aged between 5 and 13 years for two hours a week. We hope that volunteer befrienders undertake the role for a minimum of 12 months.
Duties/ Responsibilities	A volunteer befriender will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spend two hours a week with the focus child in and outside the child's home • offer respect, help and sustained emotional support to the focus child and family during difficult times • develop positive relationships with family members built on trust and confidentiality • use own life experiences and skills to encourage the focus child to build their self-confidence • encourage and support the focus child and their family to discover their own solutions to the problems they are facing
Skills/ Knowledge/ Attributes	A volunteer befriender will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be aged 23 or over • be kind, caring and non-judgemental • enjoy being with children • be a positive role model • have patience to support a child through a difficult period in their life • maintain confidentiality • be able to commit to spending two hours a week with a child for a minimum period of one year • preferably be able to drive and have access to a car that could be used in their voluntary role
Desirable experience	A volunteer befriender will have experience of... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting/ working/ volunteering with children aged 5 to 13 years • or have children or grandchildren of their own
Training	A volunteer befriender will... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • need to attend two full days initial training prior to the role beginning • be offered subsequent training opportunities relevant to the befriending role
Time commitment	A volunteer befriender will be expected to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spend 2 hours a week visiting a child after school or at a weekend • undertake the role for a minimum of 1 year • be available for regular supervision with the project manager via telephone, email and occasionally in person
Location	A volunteer befriender will be.... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • matched to a focus child who lives in the city of Winchester or surrounding villages • prepared to make visits to places of interest with the focus child in local area
Benefits	A volunteer befriender can expect... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a comprehensive induction training programme • regular supervision and support • ongoing training opportunities that are relevant to the role offered • opportunities to attend regular volunteer get-togethers provided • travel expenses to be reimbursed

NB. This post is subject to a clear Enhanced DBS check.