

Chance UK Volunteer Mentor



Role Title: Volunteer Mentor

Time Commitment: Commit to a 9-12 month mentoring programme made up of, 2-4 hour sessions per week (excluding travel to and from sessions) and 4 group sessions. At the end of the mentoring your contact with the child finishes but you can join our Mentor Alumni Network.

Location: Islington, Lambeth, Camden, Southwark.

Reporting to: Programme Manager

Purpose of role:

Chance UK is an early intervention charity providing support to children experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties. Through our mentoring programme, we support children aged 5-12 years' old who are at risk of educational exclusion, anti-social and/or criminal behaviour in adolescence and early adult life. We believe that with the right help and support, children can develop the skills and confidence to understand their emotions, manage their behaviour, realise their potential and build a better future.

We are looking for volunteers who will make the commitment to meet with their young person for a few hours once a week for 9- 12 months.

Our mentors support one child over the course of their mentoring.

We are looking for a diverse range of mentors that we can carefully match with a child on our programme and welcome all applications

Responsibilities:

- To complete the application and training process: including, completion of the Become a Mentor quiz, application form, undergo an enhanced

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, provide references, attending assessed mentor training, and an interview

- To meet your mentee on a weekly basis, arranging and planning appropriate activities tailored around the Chance UK curriculum.
- Willing to learn, participate and implement behavioural management strategies with the child on the mentoring sessions
- Attend a minimum number of mentor and child group sessions at the Chance UK offices tailored to core areas of the curriculum (This is only applicable to the Camden and Southwark programme)
- Arrange the mentoring sessions each week with the parent/guardian of the child, pick up and drop off before and after sessions
- To understand and abide by all Chance UK policies and procedures
- To engage in monthly supervisions with your programme manager held during weekdays and submit session reports and expense claims after each session
- Attend a graduation ceremony at the end of the mentoring when the relationship comes to an end, with a no contact policy after this point
- Volunteer mentors may also be invited to act as charity champions for Chance UK with opportunities to partake in fundraising activities or attend additional social events and training to talk about their experiences as a mentor

Training and support:

Volunteering as a Chance UK mentor is a great opportunity to develop new skills and engage in a variety of techniques and tools when working with children. In addition to the training days within the application process, our mentors are supported throughout the process via regular supervisions and submission of session reports from their programme manager.

Benefits:

Volunteer mentors have the opportunity to support and change the life of a child in their community who may not otherwise get the chance. Our mentors find the experience incredibly rewarding, developing their skills and participating in

activities they otherwise wouldn't. Many of our mentors have gone onto mentoring in a different capacity or used the skills and interests in their professional or personal life.

Volunteering with Chance UK has helped them develop skills including:

- Communication
- Active listening
- Understanding of solution-focussed tools and techniques
- Working with a child with behavioural difficulties and managing those challenges
- Planning and organisation
- Ability to deliver tailored content with a young child
- Empathy

Skills and attributes required:

We welcome all applications, but we have some minimum requirements. Please also look at our personal quality requirements overleaf. All volunteers must:

- Be aged 18 or over
- Live in or around London, able to make the commitment of mentoring
- Right to work in the UK

How to apply:

Please visit our website and complete the Become a Mentor quiz. If successful, you will receive a notification and invitation to complete our application form and book your place onto training

There are no formal qualifications needed to become a volunteer mentor, but we do look for some specific qualities:

Attributes	
Displays a positive approach to working with children in challenging circumstances	Strong understanding of challenges children face
	Having a child-centred approach
	Tenacious and resilient when faced with challenges
	A solutions-focussed approach to problems
Can build and maintain positive relationships	Good communicator
	Ability to build trust
	Supportive and encouraging
	A reliable and positive role model
Promotes psychological and emotional safety	Displays clear and appropriate boundaries
	Able to empathise
	Shows emotional maturity
Commitment to participating in and delivering a structured programme	Reliable and consistent
	Willingness to learn and implement a range of techniques
	Commitment to planning and adapting activities
	Maintaining a continuous dialogue with the programme manager

