



Site Volunteer

Recruitment Pack

February 2021

About Youth Options

Youth Options supports children and young people to develop their social and emotional capabilities and emotional wellbeing, improve their engagement with learning and to stay safe. We are committed to empowering and supporting children and young people to improve their life opportunities for a better future.

Children and young people are at the centre of all that we do; all our decisions are driven by our fundamental belief that every child and young person should have the opportunity to realise their potential. We are flexible in our approach and we are innovative and creative in delivering services that connect with and inspire children and young people.

We focus on those children and young people most in need of our support including: those who have suffered from adverse child experiences (ACE); those who are disadvantaged by virtue of their social and/or economic status; those with special educational needs; those excluded from education; those on reduced timetables; those in care, and care leavers.

Values

Our values underpin how we behave, both as individuals and as an organisation. They are at the heart of everything that we do. We are:

- **Supportive** - providing a supportive environment for children, young people, parents, carers, staff, volunteers and partners.
- **Inspiring** - delivering services to children and young people that inspire them to achieve their potential; inspiring our staff and volunteers to be creative and forward thinking in everything that we do.
- **Committed** to empowering and supporting children and young people to improve their life opportunities for a better future.

Safeguarding

Our work with children and young people and keeping them safe is the most important thing we do. We are committed to the safeguarding of children in all areas of our work. Successful applicants will be expected to be compliant and sign up to our Child Safeguarding policy.

Job Description

Job Title:	Site Volunteer
Contract Type:	Permanent
Location:	Eastleigh- Outdoor learning centre / Itchen Valley Country Park
Hours:	Various
Reports To:	Outdoor Learning Site Supervisor

The Role

The Site Volunteer will support in the development, maintenance and environmental stewardship of our forest school and outdoor learning sites.

Key Responsibilities

- To assist the Site supervisor with the day to day maintenance of forest school sites in both Outdoor learning centre and Itchen Valley Country Park (IVCP)
- To assist the Site supervisor with the development of the Outdoor learning site.
- To assist the Site supervisor with the environmental stewardship of the outdoor learning site and IVCP
- To contribute towards the development and implementation of varied outdoor learning / forest school programmes and activities to meet the needs of the children and young people
- To act in a way that promotes Youth Options values and ethos
- To comply with all Youth Options policies and procedures

Benefits

- Work experience that reflects environmental management and conservation work.
- An opportunity to develop workplace skills and a respected referee for future job applications
- Knowing that you are making a positive contribution to young people's lives and a to a local natural environment.
- Opportunity to attend relevant training courses including Health and Safety, risk assessment and first aid.

Health & Safety

- To report safety related problems to a member of staff
- To report all incidents/accidents to a member of staff
- To perform tasks in a manner, which creates no unnecessary risk to themselves or others

Equality and Diversity

Youth Options believes that people who use our services, our staff and volunteers should expect and receive respect and dignity. This means we will not tolerate racism, homophobia, sexism or any other form of discrimination against anyone.

Person Specification

Experience:

- Experience working in the outdoors (paid or voluntary)
- Experience with practical work, construction carpentry, landscaping, gardening ect (paid or voluntary)
- Experience in practical conservation
- Experience working as part of a team.

Knowledge:

Understanding of:

- The principles of equality and diversity
- Health and Safety when working with young people and in the outdoors.
- Ecology and environmental sustainability
- Plants and trees

Essential Skills and Competencies:

- Conducts self in a mature and responsible manner.
- Ability to give and receive feedback.
- Good communication skills
- Able and willing to do physical work activities.

Personal Qualities:

- Highly motivated and enthusiastic person
- Reliable
- Approachable
- Impartial and non-judgmental
- Team player

Benefits

Gold Investors in People Accreditation - demonstrating our commitment to our people

Commitment to personal and professional development

Commitment to staff welfare and wellbeing

How to apply

Please send your CV, and a covering letter (no more than 2 pages of A4) outlining how your experience meets the requirements of the role and why you want to work for Youth Options **or** complete and send a Youth Options application form.

The email address for applicants is tommorgan@youthoptions.co.uk; please use the job title and your name in the subject line of the email.

Queries

If you have any questions about the role or the application process, please contact tommorgan@youthoptions.co.uk

Pre-employment Checks

Employment with Youth Options will be subject to the following checks prior to your start date:

- a satisfactory police record check to include a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check
- receipt of two satisfactory references
- proof of eligibility to work in the UK