



ROLE DESCRIPTION FOR VOLUNTEER MENTOR/BEFRIENDER

JOB TITLE:	Mentor/Befriender/Peer Mentor
LOCATION:	Birmingham
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Youth Development Officer
HOURS:	3 hours per week during half term holidays 2.5 hours every fortnight

JOB PURPOSE:

This is a voluntary role which provides a wonderful opportunity for you to develop valuable skills and to provide a very valued service to young children living with Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia. We very much value your contribution and support and we will ensure that you receive appropriate training and support to deliver your role to the best of your ability.

EXPECTATIONS:

The role of the mentor is to provide support and encouragement to younger children who have been diagnosed or living with traits of Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia. This may be with situations they feel they need support with or engage in local activities. Mentors/Befrienders will at all times be good role models.

At all times you will respect the confidentiality of your mentee. If your mentee discloses any information which an adult should be dealing with, you must ensure that the information is passed on to the relevant adult as soon as possible (Youth Development Manager).

We will do everything possible to provide the support you need to be a good mentor/befriender, but if at any time you feel out of your depth, you must make the Youth Development Officer aware of this.

PERSON DESCRIPTION

You will be a good role model, who is able to identify with the younger children and recognise what he or she might find difficult. You will be a sympathetic but constructive and provide positive support. You will be a good communicator who forms good relationships. Previous experience in a leadership role and understanding/living with Sickle Cell or Thalassaemia may be helpful although this is not a requirement for the role.



ROLE DESCRIPTION

- To attend and participate in all peer mentoring training courses in order to support you so that you can undertake the role of mentor/befriender to the best of your ability.
- To be a good role model to others and form good relationships with children, young people and families.
- To spend 2.5 hours every fortnight with mentees and 3 hours during half term holidays discussing any difficulties, attending activities and offer solutions. (This could be helping children become more confident in developing friendship, encouragement and engagement on social/educational activities or helping with homework especially if children are falling behind at school due to their illness)
- To ensure that the appropriate staff are aware of any issues arising which need monitoring or intervention by an adult.
- To follow Oscar Birmingham Child Protection policies ensuring all mentees are kept safe and well while under your supervision.
- To undertake any tasks as required by Youth Development Officer in relation to developing, nurturing and maintaining an effective mentoring/befriending relationship.
- To work with Youth Development Officer to ensure all out of centre activities undergo risk assessment and record of contacts kept with mentees.
- To actively take part in supervision with Youth Development Officer in order to discuss progress, problems and your personal development.

You will be required to have an Enhanced Criminal Record check as part of Disclosure and Barring Scheme. (DBS)