

Role: Sunshine Fund Holiday Centre - Volunteer

The Sunshine Fund Holiday Centre

SVP runs a holiday centre based in Sunshine House, Balbriggan, Co Dublin providing a week long residential holiday for children aged 7-11 years. The Sunshine Fund aims to provide fun, safe, residential holidays for children in a child centred, volunteer led environment.

Overview of the Volunteer Role

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of holidays at Sunshine House. They are responsible for the care, safety and supervision of the children on their week. They are required to work together with the team of volunteers under the Head and Assistant Head Volunteer to facilitate a positive holiday experience for the children in our care.

Key Tasks & Responsibilities – (Further details provided directly by the service)

1. Build positive relationships with the children who attend the service.
2. Supervision of children during mealtimes, activities, outings, dorms etc.
3. Take part in activities, spend time with the children and young people, and encourage them to participate
4. Create a safe environment in which children and young people can thrive.
5. Role model positive behaviours.
6. Promote a culture where the child's voice is paramount
7. Uphold and adhere to Sunshine House and SVP policies and procedures in all areas
8. Familiarise yourself with the Code of Conduct and adhere to this.
9. Ensure the protection and welfare of children attending the service by reporting any safeguarding concerns to the Designated Liaison Person (DLP).

Key Skills, Experience & Qualities - (Further details provided by the service)

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Willingness to work with children and be child friendly.
3. Enthusiastic, creative, & imaginative with a commitment to creating a fun environment for children
4. Reliable & committed.
5. Flexible, patient, & a team player.
6. Understanding of the rights of the child and child centred in your approach to children.

Time Commitment

The minimum time commitment is 1 full week staying in a residential setting – Saturday to Saturday

Induction & Training & Support

Volunteers will complete a comprehensive induction training programme with a designated member of the Conference/service that will include reviewing the role description, volunteer agreement, the Code of Conduct, general operations of the centre, health and safety information, and safeguarding procedures.

Volunteers will also receive a Volunteer Handbook detailing the policies and procedures of Sunshine House that they should familiarise themselves with.

Volunteers will also have to complete mandatory Child Protection Training prior to commencing.

Head and Assistant Head Volunteers will provide direct support to you in your role on an ongoing basis. There will be regular debriefs where you can discuss any issues that arose during day. Other members of the volunteer team will also provide support on an ongoing basis during your time in Sunshine House.

Key Requirements

1. Complete the SVP recruitment process which includes the application form, interviews, reference checks and Garda Vetting.
2. Complete the full mandatory induction training
3. Complete Child Protection Training.
4. Adhere to the Society's and Sunshine House's ethos, mission statement, and policies and operating procedures.
5. Commitment to the safety and welfare of children through upholding children's rights.
6. Belief that the best interests of children and young people availing of SVP services are paramount.

Benefits

1. The opportunity to help us to provide a holiday to children in need.
2. The opportunity to contribute positively towards the development of children and young people, enhancing their sense of self-worth and self-belief.
3. Personal and professional development in terms of confidence, patience, adaptability, leadership, communication, decision-making etc.
4. General happiness and satisfaction.
5. To make a difference in the lives of children and young people.
6. An opportunity to use and develop your own skills and talents.
7. An opportunity to develop friendships and meaningful relationships with like-minded peers

SVP's National Children & Family Services Manager can be contacted for any further information or support on 085-8766875.