



Volunteer Role Description

Role: Parents Group, Irish Language Volunteer

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) is a Christian voluntary organisation working with people experiencing poverty and disadvantage. We are involved in a diverse range of activities characterised by support and friendship, promoting self-sufficiency, and working for social justice.

The SVP Ballina Resource Centre was established in 1995. We operate Monday through Friday providing a range of different classes, services and support to our clients in Ballina, North Mayo and West Sligo.

Overview of the Volunteer Role

The purpose of the Irish Language Parents Group is to help the learners to learn or improve their Irish. Some parents in our centre have no Irish and we are looking to develop the group to learn basic expressions and vocabulary. The emphasis is on the learner acquiring basic skills while gaining confidence. The tutor in partnership with the centre administrator and parents group can agree on the best teaching approach.

The aim of the group is to help parents build their own Irish language skills and confidence so they can help their children with homework, reading etc.

Use texts, music, stories and your own creativity to make the Irish lessons your own. Lessons might be around easy conversational or common phrases for new learners.

Key Tasks & Responsibilities

1. Develop a learning guide and lesson plans for conversational Irish Language group.
2. Build positive relationships with the members who attend the service.
3. Assist with the set-up of the room for the activities and help with the clearing up and cleaning at the end of the session.
4. Assist the centre administrator with the organisation and the delivery of Irish Language group.
5. Ensure participants are comfortable and included in all activities.
6. Be passionate about Irish Language and working with people.

Key Skills, Experience & Qualities

1. A strong commitment and enthusiasm for supporting adults.
2. Be proficient in Irish Language.
3. An ability to express empathy and treat people with respect, sensitivity and tact.
4. An ability to instil fun and energy when delivering the classes.
5. Ability to relate well to people and enjoy dealing with them.
6. Patience, resilience, tolerance and flexibility.
7. An empathy towards the personal, social and/or physical development of the individual.

Time Commitment

The exact times and dates will be agreed between the volunteer and the centre administrator.



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Induction & Training & Support

Volunteers will complete a comprehensive induction 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 service, health and safety information, and safeguarding procedures.

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

Volunteers will also complete safeguarding vulnerable adult training.

Your Service administrator will provide direct support to you in your new role. There will be opportunities to debrief where you can discuss any issues that arose during the day.

Key Requirements

1. Complete the SVP recruitment process which includes the application form, informal interview, reference checks and Garda Vetting.
2. Complete the full mandatory induction training and undertake ongoing member development training and refresher training provided by the Society.
3. Complete Safeguarding Training as requested.
4. Adhere to the Society's ethos, mission statement, and policies and procedures.
5. Commitment to the personal, social and/or educational development of the individual
6. Belief that the best interests of those availing of our services are paramount.

Benefits

1. The opportunity to contribute positively in the lives of members of our community to improve their overall well being
2. Personal and professional development in terms of confidence, patience, adaptability, leadership, communication, decision-making etc.
3. General happiness and satisfaction.
4. To make a difference in the lives of others
5. An opportunity to use and develop your own skills, passions and talents.
6. An opportunity to develop friendships and meaningful relationships with like-minded peers

SVP's National Children & Family Services Support Coordinator can be contacted for any further information or support on 085-855 6334