



**Believing in young people**

# Youth Work Role Descriptions

We are looking for capable, articulate and determined people to engage and support marginalised and disadvantaged young people.

We can provide anything from a few hours a week as a volunteer to full time paid roles, depending upon your skills, experience, availability and qualifications.

Basic training will be provided

All roles will require the applicant to complete an enhanced DBS check.

Oxygen employs staff and volunteers from all walks of life with varying life experience, beliefs and faiths.

However, all staff and volunteers will be asked to

work in sympathy with the values and principles of the charity which is founded on the Christian faith and within the ethos of our mission, "Believing in young people".

All staff and volunteers will be trained in safeguarding and be required to work in accordance with Oxygen's policies which are designed to protect the children and young people with whom we work and staff and volunteers. All staff and volunteers are expected to be reliable, punctual, willing to engage with young people and able to work as part of a team.



## **Youth Support workers - Voluntary or paid on a sessional basis**

This role is the basic entry level into youth work and is ideal if you want to utilise and develop your skills, are passionate about making a difference in the lives of others and are keen to learn (although we regard this as an essential aspect of all the roles we have!). You might not have much experience of working with young people but are willing to give it a go.

The role will entail working as part of a team, planning and delivering activities in a variety of settings such as youth clubs, schools, on trips and out in the community. You will have the support of a more qualified and experienced Youth Worker but you will be expected to build positive relationships with young people, identify their needs and assist them in developing and achieving their potential.

## **Youth Worker – Voluntary or paid on a sessional basis**

Your role is similar to that of the Youth Support Worker but you will probably have more experience of working with young people and so able to respond to those with more complex needs and issues. You will be looking out for opportunities to give young people responsibility, engaging them in the process of planning and delivering the activities and developing their skills. You will also be skilled in challenging and managing the behaviour of young people, tackling conflict and maintaining appropriate boundaries.

You will look to identify specific support needs of young people and be vigilant for opportunities to go the extra mile in meeting those needs. You will also be required to

## **Leader in Charge – Paid on a sessional basis or part time**

You will be the worker taking responsibility for ensuring that a youth work session runs safely and effectively. This will involve assessing the needs of the young people you are engaging with, planning targets, devising activities and managing other staff and volunteers involved in delivering the activities. This includes making sure that other staff know what they are doing and are clear about where and when they are needed and having the necessary resources to deliver the session.

You will have committed to working for a longer period of time and be developing ongoing supportive relationships with young people and their families. You will have oversight of the broader aims of your engagement with young people and an understanding of the issues affecting their lives over time and the nature of the community in which they live.

You will facilitate young people's involvement in the planning and evaluation of the activities being delivered and be responsible for ensuring that monitoring data is gathered. You will be reporting on the outcomes achieved through the activities and engagement with young people and contribute to identifying progress towards key targets and aspirations.

## **Full time staff – Voluntary with expenses or paid on a monthly basis**

As a full time member of the Oxygen team you will work towards a tailored description of your roles and responsibilities which will be set out in your job description and contract of employment or volunteer agreement.

In order for us to engage and meet the diverse needs of young people, Oxygen maintains a range of projects and initiatives including building based provision, detached youth work, mentoring, enterprise schemes, residential and targeted intervention such as our *What's the Point?* programme. Therefore, Oxygen seeks to maintain a mix of voluntary and paid staff with varying skills, life experience and motivations. We value the innovation and energy of our Gap year volunteers, the connection to the community of our local volunteer's sessional staff and the continuity of relationship offered by long serving part and full time staff.

Full time and substantial part time staff will be asked to participate in activities that are focussed upon generating income and donations, as well as communicating aspects of our engagement and the impact of our work with young people, to those who donate to the charity. This often includes local churches, other faith groups, local authority and grant making bodies. Some of Oxygen's full time staff have a faith element within their role which attracts a "Genuine Occupational Requirement" for them to be a Christian.

If you would like to further explore the potential for you to join the Oxygen team then please contact one of our senior management team by emailing [info@oxygen-online.org](mailto:info@oxygen-online.org) or phoning the Oxygen office on 0208 547 0566