

Volunteer Roles

Workshop/Social Support

About Mencap Liverpool

Mencap Liverpool is a small, local charity supporting people with a learning disability, their families, friends and carers in Liverpool. We are affiliated to the national charity Mencap, but are a separately run organisation; we are completely self-governed and have to raise all our own money.

Our vision is a world where people with a learning disability are valued equally, listened to and included.

Volunteers are essential to the targets on our strategic plan, from advocacy to befriending activities. Many of our values and beliefs can only be upheld through volunteering, both in our office and out in the community.

Workshop/Social Support Volunteers

Workshop volunteers support Mencap Liverpool staff to run sessions for people with a learning disability on a variety of different topics. Workshops help our members with their personal development and confidence, and also to meet new people and make new friends. The topics of workshops can be anything from finding employment to arts and crafts.

Volunteers that support social events help staff run social events for people with a learning disability. This may include helping to support our members to access local attractions outside of the office alongside Mencap Liverpool staff.

Volunteer Requirements

Volunteers **MUST** display the following qualities:

- A friendly and approachable manner
- Reliability
- An interest in others
- Patience
- Ability to use initiative
- Ability to work as part of a team or autonomously
- Acceptance of others who might be different to yourself

- A willingness to work within guidelines and to take direction where necessary

Timing/Commitment

Time commitment in this role can vary.

Workshops usually run over a period of six or eight weeks at a time, for two hours a week. The days and times for workshops can vary.

We ask that workshop volunteers are available to support every session in a series of workshops where possible.

Social events regularly take place on a Wednesday morning, so ideally volunteers would generally be free at these times. Occasionally, volunteers will be required to support social events outside the office that make take place out of this usual time slot.

Volunteer Training and Support

Workshop/social support volunteers will provide Mencap Liverpool with two character references and we also carry out an enhanced DBS check. Workshop/social support volunteers attend a training session to ensure they are aware of what the role entails and feel comfortable and confident in it.

Workshop/social support volunteers will be supported by the Volunteer and Befriending Manager.

Flexibility

We welcome volunteers who are willing to be flexible within their roles. Being a small organisation, it is important that volunteers are keen to get involved with all aspects of Mencap Liverpool where applicable and appropriate.

We value our volunteers and take care to match people to suitable roles.