Volunteering for Young People Under 16

Why should I consider volunteering?

It is a great thing to help other people in the community, it makes a huge difference to peoples’ lives. Volunteering is rewarding and can make you feel good. It can equip you with skills and experiences that can help you secure a job or a place in college or university. More importantly, volunteering is fun and you get to meet people from all walks of life.

How long do I have to volunteer for?

Most volunteering opportunities are a couple hours a week and you can discuss how many months of volunteering you can commit to. Remember that most organisations will give you time off for exams and holidays. You can finish volunteering at any time, however it is good practice to give an organisation plenty of notice.

Interested in a specific opportunity?

You can contact the organisation yourself and ask for more information, or to meet for a chat with them. However, if you would like someone from Volunteer Midlothian to speak to an organisation on your behalf please let us know and we would be happy to help.

What is the recruitment process to volunteer?

Varies depending on the role and organisation. Many opportunities just require an informal chat and application form. If a role has more responsibility and you are working with vulnerable people (like children, older people, people with disabilities or mental health problems) you might need references and a PVG, which is like a police check.

For more information, or to book an appointment to find out more about volunteering please contact the youth team by

Text: 07977897950
Phone: 0131 660 1216
Email: info@volunteermidlothian.org.uk
Contents

Arts & Crafts

Befriending

Catering/Café Work

Charity Shop/ Retail

Computing

Sports/ Outdoors

Youth Work
**Arts & Crafts**

**RASCALS Arts & Crafts Volunteer - Rosewell Development Trust**

Working with the Communities Activities Coordinator to plan and deliver the craft sessions. You will be given the opportunity to lead on sessions if you are confident in this. Working with local primary school aged children within Rosewell.

**When?** 2 hours a week on a Thursday afternoon

**Where?** The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Sarah Bain, info@rdtrosewell.org.uk

---

**Upcycling Volunteer - Rosewell Development Trust**

Helping out at monthly groups throughout the year, support children and adults to create unique furniture, gifts and items for their home from upcycled materials. This is the first of its kind for a group in Rosewell and volunteers will be able to make their own items, lead sessions and work with staff to develop plans for future groups!

**When?** Saturdays

**Where?** 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Sarah Bain info@rdtrosewell.org.uk
Transform Intergenerational Befriending - Volunteer Midlothian

Intergenerational Befriending is a volunteering opportunity specifically aimed at young people aged 14-20 who would like to improve social skills and confidence. Sessions take place in local sheltered housing and supported by a project worker. The volunteer’s role is to help deliver activities to the older residents, have a chat with them, and serve tea and cake.

**When?** 2 hours per week for up to 6 months.

**Where?** Groups will be arranged according to location.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Carey Douglas - carey@volunteermidlothian.org.uk
- 0131 660 1216
Café Volunteer - Glencorse Centre

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help in the 'The Nest ' community café.

Where? The Nest Café, Glencorse Centre Midlothian EH26 0QZ

When? Hours are flexible. We are looking for volunteers Mon - Fri between 10am - 2pm

Minimum Age: 14

Contact Details: Kate Williamson, Volunteer Coordinator: enquiries@glencorseassociation.org.uk, 01968 670 264

Café Assistant - Royal Voluntary Service

We are looking for a Café Assistant to help out in the RVS Café at Midlothian Community Hospital. You will help by serving customers, working the till and coffee machine. All training will be done on site. We won’t ask you to do more than you can do or want to do.

When? Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 2 hours per week.

Where? Midlothian Community Hospital, 70 Eskbank Rd, Bonnyrigg, Dalkeith EH22 3ND

Minimum Age: 14

Contact Details: Luke Craig, luke.craig@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk
**Retail Assistant - Salvation Army Trading**

Learning new skills. Helping a charity whilst having fun at the same time. Development of talents that we value such as communication skills, numeracy, teamwork and taking responsibility.

**When?** Monday – Sunday morning and afternoon. Minimum Commitment: 4 hours per week.

**Where?** 12 High Street, Dalkeith.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Linda Kidd, Manageress
linda.kidd@ymail.com

---

**Shop Assistant - Oxfam**

Shop Assistants enjoy interacting with the local community and helping others. It is a great way to make new friends and be part of a team. The position can also provide work experience and a reference for those in between jobs. Volunteering can also lead to paid positions when vacancies arise.

**When?** One day per week either 9am – 1pm/1pm – 5pm.

**Where?** 87 High Street, Dalkeith. Lothian buses 48, 39, 40 & 49.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Eileen Stoddart : oxfams-hopf5706@oxfam.org.uk, 0131 660 4185
Shop Assistant - Oxfam

Shop Assistants enjoy interacting with the local community and helping others. It is a great way to make new friends and be part of a team. The position can also provide work experience and a reference for those in between jobs. Volunteering can also lead to paid positions when vacancies arise.

**When?** One day per week either 9am – 1pm/1pm – 5pm.

**Where?** Oxfam Penicuik is situated in the town centre on a pedestrian concourse

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Eileen Stoddart : [oxfams-hopf5706@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:oxfams-hopf5706@oxfam.org.uk), 0131 660 4185
**Coding Club Volunteer - Rosewell Development Trust**

The Coding Club will allow you to share your I.T skills with children and other volunteers. The Primary-aged children who attend are all eager to learn and be creative through technology! Some I.T knowledge and experience is required, but if you’ve never used Code before – don’t worry – you will soon learn.

**When?** Monday afternoons, requires a commitment of 2 hours per week for 10 weeks.

**Where?** The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Robert Scott, manager@rdtrosewell.org.uk, 0131 629 9398

---

**Connect Online Club Helper - Volunteer Midlothian**

We are looking to recruit volunteers who have IT skills to share. The clubs are very informal and are aimed at complete beginners over the age of 65. Volunteers will come along and help learners, either one-to-one or in small groups, on a range of topics, depending on what learners would like to cover using resources provided by the coordinator.

**When?** 2 hours per week for 3 months.

**Where?** We are currently looking for club helpers in Dalkeith, Loanhead, and Penicuik.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Una Paterson, una@volunteermidlothian.org.uk,
**Transform Gardner - Volunteer Midlothian**

This opportunity is for young people (14 - 20 years old) who would like to volunteer outdoors and take part in landscaping and gardening activities. The sessions take place at our Community Garden in Dalkeith Country Park. The aim of the project is to maintain and develop a welcoming garden for the local community as well as allowing volunteers to gain practical skills for the future.

**When?** 2pm-4pm on a Thursday


**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Carey Douglas - carey@volunteermidlothian.org.uk - 0131 660 1216

---

**Gardening Club Helper - Rosewell Development Trust**

A chance to volunteer with our fun after school group of gardening and woodland management with kids of Primary School age in Rosewell. From 3pm - 4:30pm every Wednesday. Tasks include tree pruning, planting, creating habitat piles and building nesting boxes. No previous experience is necessary. There will be tool use and some lifting but the opportunity is for all abilities.

**When?** 3pm-4:30pm every Wednesday

**Where?** The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Jessica Raine, info@rdtrosewell.org.uk, 0131 629 9398
**Practical Woodland Volunteer - Newbattle Abbey College**

Do you like being outdoors? Would you like to learn skills in woodland management?

Would you like to be involved in a hard-working team? Then we have a great volunteering opportunity for you!

**When?** Saturday morning and afternoon. Minimum Commitment: Once a month on a Saturday between 10am - 3pm.

**Where?** On Borders Buses X95 bus route from Edinburgh. Nearest station is Eskbank.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Laura Goble, Community Woodland Ranger, lauragoble@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk

---

**Sports Session Helper - Active Schools Midlothian**

Midlothian Active Schools aim to provide more opportunities for children to take part in sport and physical activity, before during lunchtime and after school. Being a volunteer delivering in school, allows us to provide further clubs for children to access. We also look for volunteers to help us with manage our events programme, such as, course marshal in cross country, referee or score keeper in basketball, athletics or hockey.

**When?** Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, during the day.

**Where?** Throughout Midlothian

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Active Schools, 0131 561 6519, active.schools@midlothian.gov.uk
Helper - Thornton Rose Riding for the Disabled

We provide people with disabilities with the opportunity to ride and enjoy all the activities connected with horse riding. The horses help people both therapeutically and recreationally. Your help is needed to support our riders by talking and interacting with them to provide a social and fun experience, walking alongside them for safety and social interaction. For the horses: Bring them in from the field and give them a much appreciated groom, put on their saddles and bridles ready for the rides. After the rides we all sit together and have lunch (which is provided) and share what happened during the rides and get to know each other. Come along and try it with no commitment.

**When?** 4 hours per Week. Friday mornings, Wednesday mornings, Saturdays.

**Where?** We are based in Thornton Farm, Thornton Road, Rosewell, EH24 9EF which is on the outskirts of Rosewell. Lothian buses 49 & 31.

**Minimum Age:** 12

**Contact Details:** Volunteer Coordinator: enquiries@thornton-rose-RDA.org.uk, 08454 506 922
**Transform Activity Buddy - Volunteer Midlothian**

This is a fully supported volunteer opportunity, and a great opportunity to gain experience of working with children in a relaxed and fun environment. The role will involve helping to set up the play equipment at sessions and then during sessions; helping the children to play. After the session you’ll help clear up, and contribute to completing a session evaluation.

**When?** 3:30pm-4:30pm once a week during term-time and various session times during the holidays

**Where?** Session locations vary, mainly Dalkeith, Mayfield and Gorebridge.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Carey Douglas - carey@volunteermidlothian.org.uk
- 0131 660 1216

---

**Midlothian Council – Library Services**

Do you love reading and books? Take part, create and lead reading inspired activities during the Summer Reading Challenge, encouraging young readers to complete their six book journey.

**When?** Monday – Saturday morning and afternoon. Minimum Commitment: 2 hours per week.

**Where?** Various Libraries in Midlothian

All libraries are serviced by nearby bus routes.

**Minimum Age:** 13

**Contact Details:** Sarah Findlay, Service Development Leader – Children and Young People, sarah.findlay@midlothian.gov.uk
Rosewell Development Trust

All volunteers will work in a team with the Community Activities Coordinator to plan and deliver the craft sessions. You will be given the opportunity to lead on sessions if you are confident in this. Working with members of the community, you will be an approachable, lively and helpful volunteer who is ready to support the children, engage with the family and provide a fun atmosphere where children can take part in activities or enjoy free play.

**When?** 3 hours a week on a Friday Morning

**Where?** The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Sarah Bain, info@rdtrosewell.org.uk

---

Assistant Community Playworker - Play Midlothian

As an Assistant Community Playworker you’ll be working with experienced Community Playworkers to deliver weekly outdoor play sessions for children. You’ll help set up the play environment at sessions, then help children play. After the session you’ll help clear up, and contribute to completing a session evaluation.

**When?** Monday afternoon and Friday afternoon

**Where?** Woodburn (in either Cowden Park (Monday) or Thornybank Square (Friday)) Lothian Buses 3, 48, 39, and 49 (Dalkeith Campus) stop close to our office where we meet before going to the park.

**Minimum Age:** 16, but if under 16, people doing other awards or looking for experience can enquire, but it will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

**Contact Details:** Laura Baigrie, info@playmidlothian.org.uk, 0131 663 2243
Saltire Ambassador—Volunteer Midlothian

As a Saltire Ambassador you will be part of a panel of young people helping Volunteer Midlothian to spread the word about volunteering and the Saltire Award scheme. You will have the responsibility to decide who deserves to receive the Saltire Summit award in Midlothian.

**When?** A minimum of attending 2 or 3 panel meetings over the course of a year (around 2 hours each time), with opportunities to commit to more for those who are interested.

**Where?** Panel meetings will be held at our office (32/6 Hardengreen Business Park, Dalkeith, EH22 3NX), or other suitable locations in Midlothian. Support with transport can be provided.

**Minimum Age: 12**

**Contact Details:** Carey Douglas - carey@volunteermidlothian.org.uk
- 0131 660 1216

---

Kids World Citizen Leader - Rosewell Development Trust

All volunteers will work in a team with the Volunteer Coordinator to plan and deliver the Kids World Citizen sessions. You will be given the opportunity to lead on sessions if you are confident in this. Working with members of the community, you will be an approachable, lively and helpful volunteer who is ready to support the children in all of the activities we do. Activities previously run include: litter picking, random acts of kindness and learning about Ramadan.

**When?** Friday Afternoon, 3 hours per week.

**Where?** The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.

**Minimum Age: 14**

**Contact Details:** Sarah Bain, info@rdtrosewell.org.uk
Chatter and Clatter Play Volunteer -
Rosewell Development Trust

All volunteers will work in a team with the Community Activities Coordinator to plan and deliver the craft sessions. You will be given the opportunity to lead on sessions if you are confident in this. Working with members of the community, you will be an approachable, lively and helpful volunteer who is ready to support the children, engage with the family and provide a fun atmosphere where children can take part in activities or enjoy free play.

When? 3 hours a week on a Friday Morning
Where? The group runs at Rosewell Development Trust, 85 Carnethie Street, Rosewell.
Minimum Age: 14
Contact Details: Sarah Bain, info@rdtrosewell.org.uk

Youth Leader—Boys Brigade

A little of your time, can make a BIG difference. Volunteering in today's Boys' Brigade helps give children & young people opportunities and experiences beyond what is possible in school or at home.

Where? Lasswade High School Centre, Bonnyrigg, EH19 2LA Loanhead Parish Church Hall, Loanhead, EH20 9AJ Penicuik North Kirk Church Hall, Penicuik, EH26 8AG
Minimum Age: 14
Contact Details: Samantha Service, samantha.service@thebb-edinburgh.org.uk
**Transform Activity Buddy - Volunteer Midlothian**

Chance for young people aged 14-20 to volunteer to help at Primary School after-school activity sessions during term time. These sessions will vary depending on the location, but are likely to either be homework clubs, sports clubs, gardening sessions, art sessions or coding clubs. This is a fully supported volunteering opportunity.

**When?** 3:30pm-4:30pm once a week during term-time

**Where?** Session locations vary, mainly Dalkeith, Mayfield and Gorebridge.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Contact Details:** Carey Douglas
carey@volunteermidlothian.org.uk
- 0131 660 1216

---

**Play Work Assistant - Mayfield After School Club**

To work with children as part of the staff team. To assist in providing arts & crafts activities, gym activities and outdoor activities for all children. To assist in contributing to planned outdoor outings, to assist in preparation of snacks.

**When?** 2 hours per Week. Minimum Commitment: 1 Day

**Where?** St Lukes Primary School, Mayfield, Dalkeith, (Good Bus route) Lothian buses 3, 29 & 48.

**Minimum Age:** 15

**Contact Details:** Lisa Smith, mayfieldasc@btconnect.com,
0131 654 1226