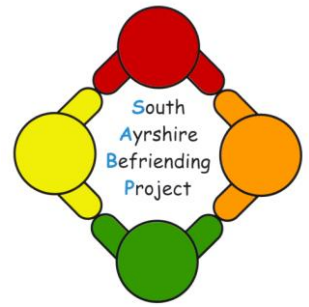


SOUTH AYRSHIRE BEFRIENDING PROJECT

BEFRIENDER ROLE DESCRIPTION



THE ROLE OF A BEFRIENDER

A befriender is someone who, after a period of training and assessment will provide a 1:1 supportive friendship for a socially isolated young person aged between 8 & 18 who lives in South Ayrshire. This will involve meeting on a fortnightly basis for a few hours and sharing activities and time together.

TASKS

- To be matched on a 1:1 basis with a young person
- To participate in fortnightly outings with the young person
- To participate where possible in monthly group outings & volunteer support sessions
- To participate in regular meetings and maintain effective communication with the Project
- To develop and maintain positive relationship with young person
- To be aware of the Project's policies and procedures and adhere to them
- To comply with Project's administrative procedures

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Requirements

- To attend and successfully complete Volunteer training course held over 4 sessions
- Completion of Enhanced Disclosure
- To commit to their role for a minimum of 6 months
- To be sufficiently independent to meet travel requirements, by walking, public transport or car
- Be comfortable working on their own independently and in group settings
- Be able to seek advice and support from Co-ordinator when necessary

Desirable Requirements

- To be able to communicate well with others
- To be non judgemental, respecting people's differences
- To have an understanding or awareness of some issues faced by young people referred to the Project
- To be able to focus on the needs of the young person
- Be willing to participate in a broad range of activities

Training & Support

- Newly accepted volunteers receive a four week induction training which consists of 4 x 3 hour sessions every week. Thereafter volunteer sessions are offered on a monthly basis and comprise of a mixture of training, information and social events.
- The Co-ordinators maintain regular contact with befrienders, meeting with them every 6 – 8 weeks offering support advice and guidance where necessary. This continues throughout the volunteer's involvement with the Project.
- References can be given on request.
- All out of pocket expenses are re-imbursed.