

Voluntary Action Leicestershire – VAL

**Stuart Wain – Sector
Support Team Manager
(includes Volunteering)**

This session

- Young People Volunteering
- VAL Training
- Q&A

It's the future

- Young People are the future of volunteering
- Groups looking to younger age volunteers
- Young people volunteering with Parents
- Response to changes in availability

VAL & Youth Volunteers

- Set up a youth panel (Spring 2021) consisting of 12 young people
- Established to increase young people into volunteering
- And to support community groups to recruit
- This group lasted for one year as it was a short term group to scope out what works/what doesn't.

- Volunteer matching – Pilot (August and September 2023) A more bespoke service aimed at young people to offer support into volunteering.

We would like to build on this, concentrating on 3 main areas:

- Benefit - Improve young people's volunteering experiences, working with them to aid their personal and professional development
- Longevity - Develop quality of volunteering roles to be more dynamic and appealing in order to improve recruitment and length of time volunteers stay for
- Promotion - Provide a platform for all parties involved to access free advice and support, network and learning events and to promote youth volunteering opportunities

Where to look

- Universities and Colleges – regular volunteer and job fairs
- VAL attends these to promote Volunteering
- City students will Volunteer in the County
- Social media advertising
- Established Youth organisations
- Duke of Edinburgh awards participants
- Contact VAL Helpline  0116 257 50 50
- Email helpline@valonline.org.uk

VAL Website

- <https://volunteer.valonline.org.uk/>
- Groups can register and use this to advertise for Volunteers, we can support with this.
- Minimum age usually 16 yrs
- Peter le Marchant Trust have a Youth project <https://www.peterlemarchanttrust.co.uk/>
- Passion for youth project Shepshed
- www.passion-shepshed.co.uk

Things to consider

- Generational change – people view things differently
- This can include attitudes to giving time
- Understand what assumptions you make
- What can you change about your volunteer offer – time, consistency, support
- Location – especially if rural (transport)

Types of roles

- Being aware of current trends
- Don't assume
- Attracting applications from Young People
- Consider making changes to your existing provision
- Harness the skills of Young People in your organisation.
- Provide support

Why Volunteer

- Give something back to your local community
- Make a difference to local area
- Help people who need it
- Support a good cause - eg: Environment
- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Meet new people
- Try something new
- Improve your health and wellbeing
- Gain work experience/ boost careers options

Micro Volunteering

Micro volunteering enables people to offer their time in small chunks. Volunteers can manage how often they take part in micro volunteering activities, and can fit them flexibly around other commitments.

<https://volunteer.valonline.org.uk/microvolunteering/>

Examples of volunteer training sessions delivered

1. Recruiting and Managing and Volunteers
2. Positive Volunteer Management
3. Managing & Supporting Remote Volunteers
4. Recruiting Trustees
5. Volunteering and the Law Training

Examples of Sector Support training sessions Delivered

1. Essential Trustee
2. Understanding your role and gaining confidence as a trustee
3. Managing Financial Challenges
4. Introduction to Funding Applications
5. Social Investment Webinar

Q's