**Weekly Activity Volunteer**

**Volunteer Role Description**

**Accountable to: Activities and Volunteers Coordinator (AVC)**

**Hours: 1-2 hours per week, weekday afternoon/ evenings**

**Location: Throughout Wokingham and Reading Borough**

Our children and teenagers want to attend weekly activity clubs but their additional needs and disabilities make it difficult for them to take part. By supporting these children, our volunteers make a huge difference and ensure the children can take part in the activities they love.

**What does the role involve?**

We match children with a 1-1 volunteer who attends their chosen activity with them each week to offer support. The activity is chosen by the child and their family. Examples of clubs we currently support at include Scouts, swimming, drama and gymnastics. By building a relationship with one of our children or teenagers you can help them overcome barriers to being included. **We are looking for volunteers who can commit to volunteering for 1 year.**

**The role will include:**

* Attending a leisure activity with your matched child once a week, this will be in the same location every week. Most activities only run during term time.
* Getting to know your child/teenager and building a positive relationship.
* Working with your allocated Activities and Volunteers Coordinator (AVC) and the activity leader on adaptations which will make the activity more accessible for your matched child. E.g. breaking down instructions or providing visual cues to show them what to do.
* Helping your matched child to feel part of the group and achieve their personal target. E.g. making new friends.
* Feeding back to the child’s parent or carer to let them know how the activity went and staying in contact with them throughout your volunteering journey.
* Keeping in touch with your (AVC) and updating them on any changes or concerns.
* Completely termly surveys about your volunteering experience to help us measure outcomes.

Volunteer roles are subject to a DBS checked and references.

**What skills and experience do I need?**

 Previous experience of working with children with additional needs is not necessary but would be very welcome

 16 years or older

 Enthusiastic, friendly, and willing to get involved

 Good communication skills

 Reliable and able to commit to supporting your child once a week for a year

**What benefits can I expect?**

 1:1 experience with a child with additional needs

 A way to keep active and support your community

 A chance to give a local family some much needed support

 A full day of training, so no experience is required

• Reimbursement of travel expenses

• Priceless real-life experience

• Recognition for your volunteering hours through the Vinspired Volunteer Awards

**Additional volunteering opportunities**

Throughout your time volunteering with us we may contact you about ad hoc volunteering opportunities that you can get involved with. These include supporting at our family parties, fundraising and case studies.