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Registered Charity No. 1100722

Volunteer Support Worker

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Autism Bedfordshire's services are provided by means of specific funding processes. Where these become unavailable it may mean a restriction or suspension of services. The position detailed in this document is subject to specific funding availability. Autism Bedfordshire are not able to guarantee the duration, location or availability of this position. Where specific funding is not available every endeavor will be made to find a reasonable alternative to the agreed terms of association. In some cases this may not be possible. This does not affect your statutory rights.

Line Management: Adult Skills Tutor and Post Diagnostic Lead

Responsibilities: To help plan, supervise and run scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities subject to guidance from the Adult Skills Tutor and Post Diagnostic Lead.

Planning

- In partnership with the service users, help develop plan and deliver session themes and locations with due regard given to any significant risk factors.
- Regularly inform service users of upcoming sessions.
- Allow time to integrate new service users into the sessions.

Health, Safety and Welfare

- Ensure that information detailing staff, volunteers and individuals in our care's specific medical and welfare requirements is sourced and stored in line with Autism Bedfordshire's Data Protection Policy.
- Ensure that measures are put in place to make provision for the specific medical and welfare requirements of staff, volunteers and individuals in our care at all times.
- Ensure that sites are checked for safety, suitability and hazards prior to the beginning of, and following the end of scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities.
- Ensure that hazards are recorded and reported to the Senior Team Leader and Adult Skills Tutor and Post Diagnostic Lead, and that appropriate action is taken to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of all people on site.
- Ensure that Health, Safety and Welfare policies are implemented and that relevant notices are displayed as required.
- Make certain that training, resources and procedures are in place to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of all people on site.
- Ensure First-Aid provisions are readily accessible and that these locations are clearly signposted.
- Document all accidents, near misses and incidents – Reporting these to the Adult Skills Tutor and Post Diagnostic Lead in accordance with the Health, Safety and Welfare, Data Protection & Confidentiality policies.
- Allocate appropriate supervision to high risk areas for all scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities.

Fire and Emergency Procedures

- Ensure specific fire and emergency evacuation requirements for facilities accessed by Autism Bedfordshire are adhered to.
- Ensure that all people on site document their arrival and departure times in the Fire Register.
- Ensure all people on site are made aware of the Fire and Emergency Evacuation Procedure.
- Carry out a Fire and Emergency Evacuation practice once per academic term, timing and recording this in the relevant files.

Policies and Procedures

- Carry out all operations in line with Autism Bedfordshire's Policies and Procedures.
- Ensure all paid staff and voluntary workers have access to Autism Bedfordshire's Policies and Procedures and carry out their duties within these directives
- Support and promote Autism Bedfordshire's Safeguarding Policy.
- Report safeguarding concerns to Autism Bedfordshire's Safeguarding Officer.
- Adhere to the Autism Bedfordshire Data Protection & Confidentiality Policies.
- Ensure all confidential material is kept in secure storage in line with Autism Bedfordshire's Data Protection & Confidentiality Policies.
- Ensure all paid staff and voluntary workers have signed Autism Bedfordshire's Data Protection & Confidentiality Policy.

Administration and Other Duties

- Develop and maintain good working relationships with venues accessed by Autism Bedfordshire's services.
- Ensure premises are left clean and tidy following scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities and that breakages are reported to the Development Team.
- Inform the Management Team of information becoming apparent that will either directly or indirectly affect the running of scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities.
- In conjunction with Senior Team Leaders carry out administration work as required to assist the running of scheduled Autism Bedfordshire activities.
- Where required carry out additional duties not specified in the Terms of Association in agreement with the Management Team.

Scheduled Activities

- Promote social and communication development through stimulating activities appropriate to age range and abilities.
- Where required arrange for refreshments to be provided for individuals accessing our services.
- Ensure that Risk Assessments have been completed for all scheduled activities, visiting external agencies and main venue facilities prior to use.
- Provide feedback from individuals accessing our services to the wider team.

PERSON SPECIFICATION – SUPPORT WORKER

PERSONAL QUALITIES	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Excellent Organisational Skills	X	
Excellent Communication Skills	X	
Excellent Delegation Skills	X	
Excellent Mediation Skills	X	

Commitment to Seek and Promote the Best Interests of Individuals in Our Care at All Times	X	
Commitment to Equal Opportunities	X	
Commitment to Health Safety and Welfare	X	
Empathy for Individuals in Our Care's Specific Requirements	X	
Ability to Relate Sensitively to Parents or Guardians	X	
Ability to Display Professional Conduct at All Times	X	
Ability to Use Initiative	X	
Ability to Work Under Pressure	X	
Ability to Solve Problems as They Arise	X	
Ability to Positively Motivate Self and Others	X	
Ability to Work Within a Team	X	
Ability to Communicate Effectively With Individuals in Our Care, Parents, Guardians and Staff	X	
Ability to Demonstrate a Flexible Approach in the Work Environment	X	
Willing to Learn New Skills	X	
Have Access to Own Transport		X

WORK EXPERIENCE	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Management and Supervision Experience		X
Managing in the Voluntary Sector		X
Experience of Health/Education/Social Care Roles	X	

KNOWLEDGE	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Knowledge of Autism	X	
Knowledge of Asperger's Syndrome	X	
Knowledge of Special Education Needs		X
The use of Visual Structure to Support Individuals With ASC. (Signs, Symbols and Schedules)		X

QUALIFICATIONS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
First Aid Certification		X
Health, Safety and Welfare Training		X