

Volunteering at Rowan Opportunities

Why volunteer at Rowan?

Rowan is a vibrant, independent, registered charity providing an arts centre and forest school for adults with learning disabilities.

Volunteers play a key role at Rowan and help in a range of areas, including our creative workshops, our forest school Rowan Rangers, at fundraising events and in the office. People volunteer for lots of good reasons:

- Gain useful experience and new skills which can be great for your CV or personal statements
- Try out something new
- Build confidence and self esteem
- Take on new challenges
- Share your skills to help others
- Make more effective life and career plans and give something back to the community
- Do something that is important to you
- Have fun
- Meet new people and make new friends

“Rowan is a friendly, supportive and safe place” says volunteer Veronica.

“It is the happiest place” says volunteer Mark.

Volunteers at Rowan need to be over 16, although we do have a limited number of volunteer roles for Duke of Edinburgh students working toward Bronze and Silver awards.

Forest school volunteer

The role would involve supporting the Rowan Rangers students and tutor at forest school.

	Criteria
Relevant experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of outdoor learning • Working with vulnerable people • Would be nice – Forest School, bushcraft or environmental education • Gardening, conservation or practical outdoor skills • Creative arts, crafts or wood working experience • Experience in calm, patient, person centred support

Any qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBS needed • Nice to have - Forest School, Bush Craft or other relevant outdoor qualifications <p>You don't have to be an expert in ecology or bushcraft, enthusiasm and kindness matter most.</p> <p>Personal skills –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly, patient and reliable • Comfortable spending time outdoors in all seasons • Able to work as part of a supportive team • Respectful of individuals needs, communication styles, and abilities • Keen to learn and open to guidance
Timings and days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday (9.30-2.30)
What will be expected / list of possible tasks / what you will be asked to do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing verbal encouragement and appropriate conversations • Supporting individuals during activities such as: • Fire craft • Nature craft • Simple woodland management tasks • Sensory exploration and nature walks • Green woodwork and tool use (under supervision and training) • Helping set up and pack away equipment • Encouraging independence, confidence and choice • Supporting communication and social interaction • Maintaining a safe, inclusive and respectful environment • Assisting staff with risk-aware supervision of the group
Will there be any training?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All volunteers receive: • An induction to the site and our Forest School Approach • Training in safe tool use and basic woodland/bushcraft skills • Guidance on supporting adults with learning disabilities • Safeguarding overview • Ongoing supervision and opportunities to develop skills <p>We want to feel confident, valued and part of the Rowan Rangers community</p>

If you are interested in applying for this volunteering role, please contact us via the details below or complete the online form on the Volunteering Page on our website.

Who to contact about this opportunity.

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