

SO, YOU WANT TO BE A:-

- Trustee
- Befriender
- Driver
- Receptionist
- Advocate
- Office Assistant
- Reading Partner
- Mentor
- Gardener
- Sports Coach
- Advice Giver
- Cook
- Fundraiser

The Volunteer Centre Can Help You Get Involved in Your Community!

INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT OUR SERVICES?

Please Contact Us at:

8 Brampton Road
Bexleyheath
Kent DA7 4EY

Telephone: 020 8304 0911
(Answerphone available out of hours—please leave a message!)

Fax: 020 8298 9583

Email: bexleyvc@bvsc.co.uk

Website: www.bvsc.co.uk

Opening Hours:-

9.30 am—1.00 pm
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Volunteer
Centre Bexley
is a service of
Bexley
Voluntary
Service
Council



Registered Charity No 279880
Company Limited by Guarantee No 1501746



Volunteer Centre
Bexley



Want
to
Volunteer?



Not
sure
how to get
involved?

We can help you !

Volunteer Centre Bexley !

We are one of the services of Bexley Voluntary Service Council and part of our role is to help match people who want to volunteer with organisations who need volunteers. We deal with a wide variety of organisations across public, private, voluntary and community sectors

What is Volunteering?

Volunteering is an activity that involves spending time, unpaid, doing something that aims to benefit the environment or individuals or groups other than (or in addition to) close relatives.

Why Volunteer?

Everyone has a different reason for volunteering. People become volunteers to:-

- ◇ meet new people and improve their social networks
- ◇ explore a possible career change
- ◇ gain confidence, particularly after a long period of unemployment or illness
- ◇ get new skills or improve existing ones
- ◇ obtain a reference (after a qualifying period) to help improve their chances of securing paid work
- ◇ contribute to their local community or chosen charity
- ◇ improve their CV or university application
- ◇ give structure to their day if they have recently retired or have time on their hands

◇ **to have fun!**

How Can I Find Out About Volunteering?

- Have a half hour one-to-one signposting session in our Drop-In Facility which is open Tuesday and Thursday at our offices from 10.00am—12.00 noon or at Central Library Bexleyheath at the same time on a Wednesdays—it is advisable to book if possible! We can also try to accommodate at other times within office hours or at our monthly Saturday session at one of Bexley's libraries.

- Visit the national website www.do-it.org.uk and complete the online registration form. If the opportunity has been posted by our Centre, we will then email you the contact details of your chosen organisation for you to deal with them direct.

- Ring our offices, send us an email or visit our website

- If you have a mental health issue or a learning disability please contact us to ask about extra support from one of our projects

Our Commitment to You

We undertake to provide you with a one-to-one confidential informal interview in a private room on request and to operate in accordance with our equal opportunities policy.

Any information you provide us with will not be passed on to anyone else without your consent.

A copy of our Customer Service Policy and Procedures is available on request

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How much time do I have to give?

As much or as little as you can. There will be something that fits in with your lifestyle and availability although you may find your choice more restricted.

How long will it take to start my role?

It may take a while before you can start your volunteering depending on the opportunity you have chosen and whether they have any paid staff—but you can always ask us for help.

Can I volunteer while claiming benefits?

Yes you can. Volunteering shouldn't affect your right to benefits, as long as you are only reimbursed for your expenses. There are no limits on the amount of time you can volunteer for as long as you continue to meet the conditions of the benefit you are receiving.

What experience do I need?

Most people have a variety of skills and experience without even realising it—from the ability to be a good listener to more practical skills like driving. Training and support will also be provided by the organisation you chose.

Will I get paid?

No, but usually you can claim expenses for travel etc so that you are not "out of pocket".

What is a "CRB" Check - do I need one?

Some roles will require a Criminal Record Bureau check ("CRB") and this can sometimes take up to 6 weeks to come through. This is undertaken for roles which involve one-to-one unsupervised contact with either a vulnerable adult or child. If you have a criminal record you can still volunteer but it may restrict your choice of opportunities.

Please visit our website for more FAQs !