

Nature buddy – Let’s Go Outside and Learn CIC



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| Remuneration | The role is not accompanied by any financial remuneration, although reasonable expenses may be claimed. |
| Location | Parks and open spaces in Hounslow |
| Time commitment: | Minimum 4 hours / month |
| Reporting to | Project manager |

Role Description

We are a recently formed Community Interest Company looking to develop our influence. We work to advance the education of the public in and through outdoor learning, which we do through a programme of targeted outdoor learning activities. We have recently been awarded funding for a project entitled “Access to nature for local people” which seeks to work with elderly members of the community in Hounslow at risk of isolation. We are seeking “Nature Buddies” to support the project.

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| Role Title | Nature Buddy |
| Location of position | Parks and open spaces in London Borough of Hounslow |
| Responsible to | Project manager |
| Purpose/ summary of role | <p>Nature buddies will seek to open a window for older people at risk of isolation who do not currently visit natural outdoor environment. Through the project we want to make them aware of the benefits and opportunities that exist locally. The nature buddies will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide regular support to groups during walks and activities in their local parks and open spaces. • Encourage and recruit people to the project who would not normally engage with outdoor environments. • Deliver key messages and promote the benefit of health and well-being, outdoor learning and environmental stewardship within the community. • Eventually they will work closely with a named group and support them. They will be one of a network of Nature Buddies. |
| Time Commitment | We are looking for volunteers who are able to meet for 3 hours once or twice a month to attend sessions for at least 12 months. Volunteers must also attend ongoing training and networking sessions once every 3 months. |
| Skills & Qualifications | <p>No special qualifications or experience needed. We are looking for volunteers who are understanding, patient, empathetic and good at listening. You should be enthusiastic about the benefits of outdoor environments.</p> <p>All volunteers are subject to Disclosure and Barring checks.</p> |
| Training &Support | <p>You will be given induction training into the various aspects the work.</p> <p>You will receive ongoing training and peer support at regular volunteer meetings.</p> |
| Reimbursement of expenses | <p>Out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reasonable transport expenses • light refreshments |
| Benefits to volunteer | <p>This is a fantastic learning and development opportunity. At the same time you will be helping elderly people at risk of isolation to engage with outdoor spaces and make new friends.</p> <p>If you want to make a difference to someone who needs your support and want to be part of this exciting innovative programme, this is the role for you.</p> <p>This could be an ideal opportunity for someone who wants to gain experience in the social care sector or environmental sector.</p> <p>This is an excellent opportunity for someone with a passion for outdoor environments to develop their skills and to join a small friendly team</p> |

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| Application Procedure | Initial meeting DBS Check and References |
| Contact Information | Frances Bennett 020 8401 6837 outdoor.learning@outlook.com |

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. We will meet you informally to talk about the project and opportunity.
2. We will shortlist candidates and let you know if we are proceeding with the application, which is dependent on reference and DBS checks.

If you have any specific questions call Frances 020 8401 6837 or e-mail outdoor.learning@outlook.com