

Volunteer Opportunities

There are three volunteering opportunities with the Youth Justice Service - Mentoring, Restorative Panel members and Education, Training and Employment Volunteers (ETE). All options ask for a 1 year commitment. They are quite different.

Mentors.

Mentors meet weekly with young people on a one-to-one basis. The activities undertaken depend upon the child's needs and has goals such as developing a robust relationship / raising self-esteem / building confidence / increasing young person's experiences / improving health. The 12-month commitment starts when you are matched with a young person.

Panel Members.

Panel members contribute to the nature of work that a young person will do during their Referral Order (a Court order). Panel members, along with the young person, their family/support and the YOT, will decide a programme that aims to support in areas of need and address the young person's offending behaviour. As well as contributing to the plan of work, Panel members also monitor, review and celebrate achievements made throughout the young person's Referral order. If necessary Panel Members will also contribute to decisions around risk and what action is required to manage this. The meetings are referred to as Referral Order Panel Meetings.

Panel Meetings take place at various community venues around South Gloucestershire and therefore travel will be required (expenses reimbursed). As a panel member you would be expected to commit for one year and participate in a minimum of two panels meetings per month.

Education, Training and Employment Volunteers (ETE)

ETE volunteers are paired with a young person who is ready to enter employment, education or training, but wants a help hand to get started.

We use positive relationships to help young people identify aspirations and make steps to starting their career of choice. Support is based around the young person's needs, therefore some sessions may be over the phone and some in the young person's locality. Expenses, including mileage, are reimbursed. As an ETE volunteer you would be expected to commit for one year, 1-2 hours a week.

For the above roles

After the initial application and interview process, there is a requirement for people to undertake mandatory training. Appointments can only be made after successful completion of the training, satisfactory references and Disclosure & Barring checks are complete.

Recruitment for Volunteers generally takes place once a year. Due to the difference in roles, recruitment and training may not necessarily take place at the same time for panel members, ETE and mentors.

If you are interested in volunteering, please indicate which role is of interest. Please do also indicate if you would be happy for us to keep your details on file to contact you when we are next recruiting. We can be contacted on sgyot@southglos.gov.uk