

# Top tips for volunteering



## 1 Identify what you can offer

These could be skills you've gained in the workplace, through other volunteer work or through your hobbies and interests.



## 2 Think about your motivations

There may be skills you'd like to learn, experience working in a certain field, or perhaps you'd like to give back to your community? Think carefully about why you want to volunteer, and look for events and organisations which are likely to satisfy these needs.



## 3 Explore new opportunities

Discover the range of opportunities you might be able to help with. Be adventurous and think about working with groups that you've never considered before, as new experiences can be some of the most rewarding!



## 4 Communicate effectively

Once you get confirmation that you have been accepted as a volunteer, organise a meeting with the group or a representative, either in person or on the phone. Make sure you ask questions so you're clear on what your role entails, and make sure you maintain good communication with the group throughout your involvement.



## 5 Balance your time commitments

Cancelling at the last minute for an event or not covering responsibilities that you committed to can have a negative impact on the organisation you're volunteering with.



## 6 Keep in touch

Feedback to the group and wider organisation on how your experience is going. Let them know what you're enjoying and whether you've had any issues or concerns.