

Volunteering: Frequently Asked Questions

What experience do I need to have to apply to be a volunteer?

If you have experience of working with children and or disabled people then great but it is not essential. You need energy, enthusiasm, the ability to work as part of a team and the ability to get on well with the children/young people and ensure that they are having the best time they could possibly have.

Will I be given any training?

Yes. All volunteers must attend a training day where safeguarding, child protection, health and safety and other practical information will be given.

Will I be expected to undertake any medical or personal care for the participants?

Most children that require specialist care will come with their own carer, however we do have some appropriately trained volunteers who can provide personal care, but it is not expected.

Will I have to do all the activities?

You will be welcome to have a go at everything! If there is anything you are really not happy with, we can transfer you to another activity.

I am 16 years old – am I too young to apply?

No – Phab appreciates the role of young volunteers. We are able to take a small number of applicants under the age of 18 but no younger than 16 years.

Will a Phab Residential Project count towards my Duke of Edinburgh Award?

Yes, absolutely! Bring your book along with you and we will complete it at the end of the project.

Will I have to pay anything towards the cost?

No – it should not cost you a penny. All accommodation, food, entrance fees and travelling expenses will be paid (including the training day). All we ask is that you spread the philosophy of Phab and if you are able to fundraise in anyway it would be greatly appreciated.

Will I have to share a room?

You will probably be expected to share a room with other volunteers. You will not be sharing a room with a child.

Will I have time off during the week – for example to go to the pub?

You will not be permitted to go to the pub at all during the week. There is always something that needs doing and if volunteers leave the centre it means that others have to cover. There are opportunities in the evenings to relax and socialise.

Am I insured?

Phab has liability insurance that covers all participants and volunteers for damage caused to them or by them during the week. This does not cover personal possession and it is advisable to leave them at home or check if they are covered on your home insurance.

Can I apply for more than one project?

If you feel you have the energy to attend more than one please feel free to apply for as many as you like!

What are my chances of my application being successful?

We are very fortunate that the Phab Residential Projects attracts many fantastic volunteers and we do take a large number of volunteers on each project. But sometimes, despite you being a perfect candidate, we may not have the space to accommodate you.

I already have a DBS clearance – can I send you a copy?

No. All volunteers have to undergo a DBS check via Phab (Phab will pay all costs). You will also be required to provide the details of two referees.

How do I apply?

Application forms are available online please [click here](#).