



Volunteer Mentor Role Description

CITY YEAR UK

200a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JP

recruitment@cityyear.org.uk

cityyear.org.uk

020 7014 2680



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We're looking for the next generation of changemakers who want to be inspirational role models, mentors and tutors to children who need it the most.

The role

Was there someone who made a difference in your ability to access education? Or perhaps you were a pupil who would have benefited from having a mentor? This is your chance to become that person for others. As a Volunteer Mentor, you'll spend your City Year helping children in schools within disadvantaged communities - by acting as a positive role model, mentor and coach to them, all while continually boosting your own career prospects.

Alongside your teammates, you'll encourage pupils both in and out of the classroom to help them engage with and enjoy learning - including classroom, one-to-one and small group support, as well as delivering and running breakfast, lunch and after school clubs. You'll create meaningful relationships with children who need help to do well at school. This is your chance to bring a new perspective to learning and boost pupils' confidence, while improving behaviour and helping them to feel safe, empowered and happy.

Not only will you spend the year changing lives in schools, you'll also get to take part in City Year UK's Leadership Development Programme. We take the personal and professional development of our volunteer mentors very seriously, and we want to ensure that you're continuing to progress during the year. You'll also have the opportunity to do a relevant accredited qualification as part of the programme. Plus, we'll create specially tailored Professional Development Programmes to measure your progress and help you develop the key skills and competencies that employers are looking for.

Our Volunteer Mentors come from a wide range of backgrounds but are united in one common goal: to better themselves and to better the lives of pupils facing barriers to success. Nearly 1,300 people have served with City Year UK since 2010 - and they've progressed into careers within education, social work, law enforcement, finance, engineering, marketing and many others, as well as launching their own businesses.

This is a fantastic opportunity to join our leadership development programme and help tackle educational inequality in schools, starting now or from August 2021 - July 2022. Join us, get involved and #BeTheChange.

What you'll be doing:

While in school...

- Building meaningful and trusting relationships with targeted pupils to support them in school
- 1-to-1 mentoring, working with a designated list of pupils who require more intensive support (when required), delivering a range of interventions in English and maths using content provided by the school
- Supporting teachers in the classroom by working with small groups of pupils
- Being an example of good behaviour for all children at all times
- Helping to encourage attendance and punctuality in all pupils
- Encouraging library use, supervising homework or study clubs
- Supervising fun before-school activities for the whole school (such as breakfast clubs), to get pupils energised and ready for school
- Running a range of extra curricular clubs, e.g sports, music, homework, debating etc to help build children's confidence
- Supporting the school with the creation of displays, the coordination of special events and trips, the sorting or marking of books or materials, or the entry of valuable pupil data
- Planning special projects to engage parents and the local community

And out of school....

- Developing your career with training, coaching and career workshops
- Attending external events with our business partners and influential figures
- Appearing at recruitment events, in order to inspire and tell prospective volunteers all about what we do and how it all works
- Taking part in volunteering days with our funders
- Shadowing our staff and business partners while at work
- Connecting with a mentor for your own professional development

You'll be line managed on site by one of our school-based programme staff team. The City Year UK volunteer mentor role is full-time, Monday to Friday during term time only. A typical school day begins between 7.30am - 8am, and finishes around 3.30pm - 4.30pm (depending on your school's rota).



What you'll get:

As part of your City Year experience, you'll receive:

- Day-to-day experience of working in schools and with children
- Bespoke training sessions on Fridays, to develop leadership and employability skills
- A designated professional mentor from our corporate partners
- Access to accredited leadership courses
- £90-£100 living expenses per week, dependent on region, plus all travel expenses reimbursed - see more info below
- One of our iconic red jackets

Expenses:

We're able to offer some support to help Volunteer Mentors. You'll be entitled to claim reimbursed living expenses up to £4,400 a year in London/£3,960 in West Midlands (which includes Coventry and The Black Country) and Greater Manchester. This is not a salary and should not affect how you receive any state benefits (if that's applicable to your personal situation) for things like housing, free prescriptions etc. In addition to living expenses, we'll also reimburse the exact amount of money that you spend on the most reasonable method of transport used to get to/from school and our City Year offices.



To apply, you'll need:

- To be able to commit to full-time volunteering work during the school term
- Passion and enthusiasm for working with children and tackling educational inequality
- An ability to be a positive role model for others
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- A responsible, resilient, thoughtful and empathetic nature
- A willingness to take initiative
- To be committed to taking on challenges and seeing them through
- Self awareness and an openness to learning new skills
- To be adaptable and willing to step out of your comfort zone
- Experience working - whether voluntary or paid - with children or young people (desirable)

Background checks:

We will also run background checks. Appointment is subject to clearance through the Disclosure and Barring Service, and receipt of satisfactory references. This role involves contact with children and young people which by law is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Prospective candidates are not entitled to withhold information and must declare all convictions, including spent convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings. Any information given will be completely confidential and will be considered only in relation to any application or positions to which the Order applies.

About City Year UK:

We believe that the power of young people can change the world. Our vision is of a society where all children are inspired to believe in themselves and supported to excel by a generation of young people whose commitment to a year of voluntary service is universally respected. City Year UK is dedicated to empowering 18-25 year olds across London, the West Midlands (including Coventry and The Black Country) and Greater Manchester to help children from disadvantaged communities succeed in school. But it can't be done without our committed Volunteer Mentors - and that's where you come in. We need you.

Start your journey. Give a year. Be The Change.



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