

Mencap Visiting Service Volunteer

About Mencap

Mencap is the leading learning disability charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. We work with people with a learning disability and their families to challenge prejudice and change laws, and we directly support thousands of people to live their lives as they choose.

Our vision is a world where people with a learning disability are valued equally, listened to and included. Our challenge is to make this world a reality.

Volunteering with Mencap is YOUR opportunity to help us achieve this, whilst having the chance to develop your skills, meet new people and join a passionate and dedicated team.

About this team

The Mencap visiting service was launched in **1963** and was designed to be a befriending service to adults with a learning disability for after their parents passed away. Each volunteer is matched with a designated beneficiary whom they will meet with several times in the year. This team currently works with 37 volunteers and we are looking to increase our volunteer network over the next year 2016/17. The service currently supports 370 beneficiaries. You will be supported by the regions Volunteer Services Coordinator.



What will I be doing in this role?

We are looking for at least 20 volunteers over the next year to join our team in the Mencap Visiting Service. In your role as a Mencap Volunteer Visitor you will make 6 visits per year to your matched beneficiary. These visits are flexible. Each visit is unique to the individual being supported; visit activities can range from having a cup of tea and a chat to going out for the day or head to the local park.

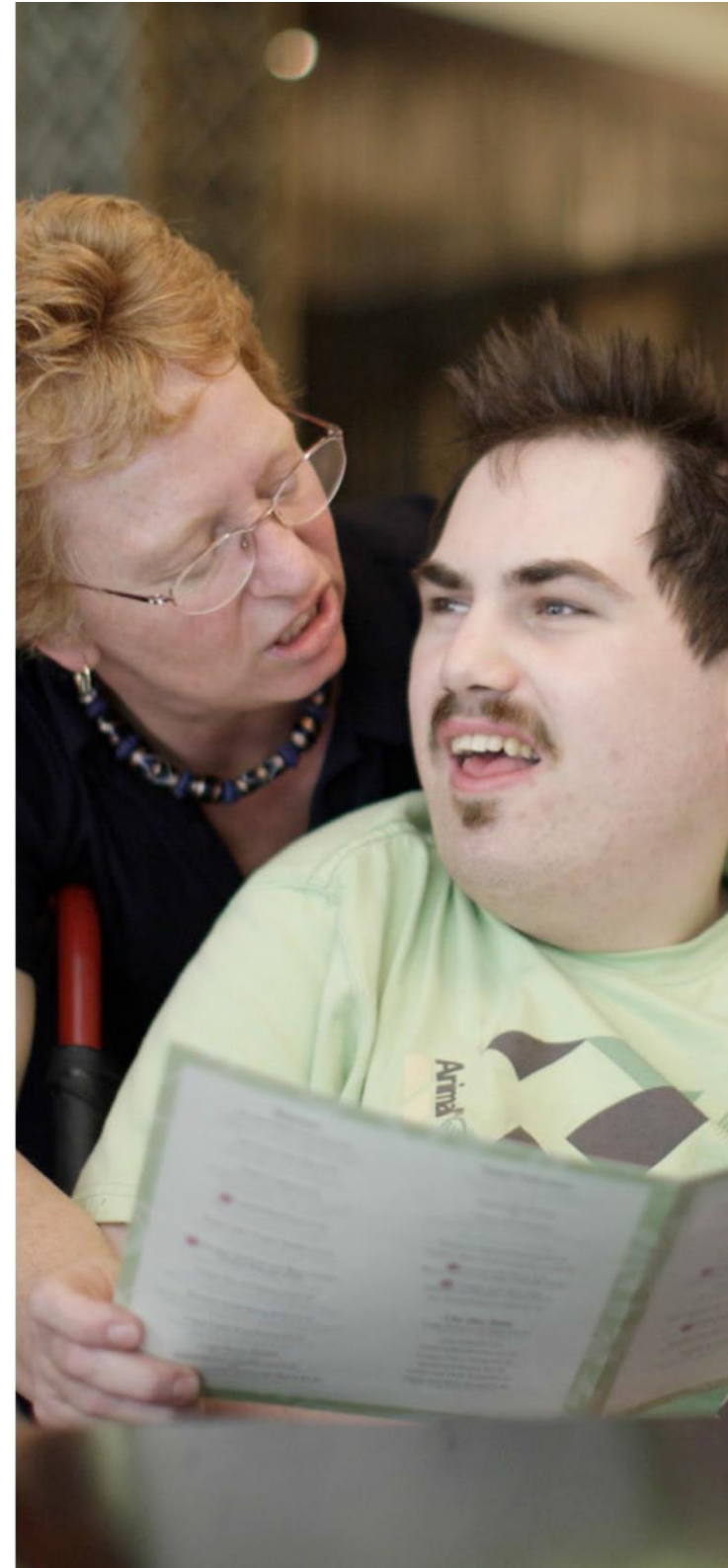
This role is for a volunteer who is passionate about supporting people with learning disabilities and are looking for the opportunity to build a supporting relationship.

An enhanced DBS check and 2 references will be required by all successful applicants.

(Please note, DBS checks for volunteers are free).

What skills do I need for this role?

- Friendly and approachable
- Reliable and patient
- Interested in others
- Able to use initiative and work autonomously
- Accepting of others who might be different to yourself
- Willing to volunteer within guidelines and to take direction where necessary
- Good communication and listening skills



What days and times do I need to be available?

The volunteer role is completely flexible and designed around you and the beneficiary.

What can I expect from Mencap?

- Relevant training
- Induction to the service and volunteer role
- A settling in period to make sure this is the right role for you
- To feel fully supported in your role
- Agreed out-of-pocket expenses to be reimbursed (e.g. travel)
- The opportunity to meet new people and be part of a diverse team
- The opportunity to learn new skills
- To feel appreciated and valued for my contribution



Last updated by BM – Feb 2016

Volunteering with Mencap

"Volunteering with Darren has given me so much. I've improved my confidence and well-being, I can see how much he gets out of the sessions each week. I'm so proud of him because he's worked so hard and is making a positive difference to his life."

Lisa (Volunteer Progression Mentor)

"People might think volunteering for Mencap involves directly supporting people with a learning disability, but we use the skills we already have and give something back in a practical way. Volunteering helps keep us active and feeling young."

Archie and Dave (Volunteer Handymen)

"I love volunteering and would recommend it to everyone. It's a great way to gain lots of experience, have fun and make friends. I also think I have made a lot of difference as a volunteer."

Lloyd (Events Volunteer & Programmes Team Support Volunteer)

Our Values

These values describe who we aspire to be and what we stand for:

INCLUSIVE

We are **Inclusive**. People with a learning disability are at the heart of everything we do.

TRUSTWORTHY

We are **Trustworthy**. When we promise something, we don't let people down.

Caring

We are **Caring**. We treat everyone with respect and kindness.

chALLENGING

We are **Challenging**. When we see things that aren't fair we will campaign until we see real change.

POSITIVE

We are **Positive**. We never stop believing in a better future and we celebrate what we are proud of now.

Does this sound like you?

If so, we'd love to hear from you – apply to volunteer with Mencap today!

