

Volunteer Role Description

Title: **Activities Assistant (Residential Homes)**

Responsible to: **Homes Manager**

Expected Commitment: **A morning or afternoon per week**

Location: **New Wycliffe Home (Rushey Mead) or
Kathleen Rutland Home (Leicester Forest
East)**

About Us:

Vista changes lives. We are the leading charity working with children and adults with sight loss in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We are passionate about providing the very best services; in hospitals, at home, in residential care and in the community. Whether someone is newly diagnosed or has lived their whole life with reduced sight, Vista's specialist staff provide a vital lifeline to over 6,000 local people each year.

Primary Objectives:

To provide or to assistant at organised activities sessions for elderly home residents.

Responsibilities:

To provide or help with organised activities with minimal supervision thus freeing up care staff to carry out their care work.

We are particularly looking for people with a skill/interest in:

- Arts and crafts
- Books and reading or reading out loud
- Music
- Any other ideas you may have

Ideally we would like volunteers to take the lead in these activities, organising, sourcing resources and leading the activities. It may be something you would prefer to do in pairs or as a small group. If we find several like-minded people we could form a group to do this. **Please note: there will be no aspect of personal care involved in this position.**

Qualities and skills we are looking for:

- The ability to act appropriately in an environment that may be emotionally demanding
- To be reliable and have a genuine interest in the desire to make a difference in the lives of visually impaired people
- Good communication skills
- Patience and a warm and friendly attitude
- A genuine interest and skill in the activity you are providing.

Support provided for you:

- Visual Impairment Awareness training will be provided and take place at Vista
- Regular newsletters, updates and news from the Homes Managers and/or Volunteer Manager at Vista
- Other training as identified
- Reimbursement of out of pocket expenses such as mileage or public transport costs.

We hope that by becoming a volunteer you:

- Increase your own self confidence
- Meet new and interesting people
- Learn new skills that could be helpful for future employment opportunities or further learning.

Health & Safety:

All volunteers will be expected to:

- Ensure that they comply with Vista's Health & Safety policy at all times
- Take reasonable care for the Health & Safety of themselves and others whom may be affected by their acts or omissions whilst volunteering.

Equality, Diversity and Rights:

Vista is committed to improving the quality of its services to all people, irrespective of race/ethnicity, disability, gender, religion or belief, age or sexual orientation. Our objective is to deliver high quality services that are accessible, responsive, and appropriate to meet the diverse needs of different groups and individuals. As such, we will continue to ensure that staff and volunteers employed by Vista treat every person with dignity, respect and fairness.

This volunteering opportunity is subject to a DBS check and sets out the duties of the role at the time when it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general climate or level of responsibility entailed.

Next steps:

If you are interested in applying, the next step is to complete our volunteer application form. Please download our application form and return to **Vista House, 1A Salisbury Road, Leicester, LE1 7QR**, or email **volunteering@vistablind.org.uk**. Alternatively, to request a form please email **volunteering@vistablind.org.uk** or call **0116 249 8843** to have one posted.