



Volunteer Role Description

- Title:** Friendship Buddy
- Responsible to:** Give and Take Manager
- Expected Commitment:** Half a day a week
- Location:** Within your local community

About Us:

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

Primary Objectives:

Give and Take project provides one to one support for older people 50+. We offer services that include; travel buddy, home buddy and shopping buddy.

These services help older people feel more confident travelling to places and doing tasks like shopping. Give and Take also accompany people to social groups within their local area.

Responsibilities:

You will be visiting someone in their home to have a cup of tea and a chat. You could get involved with art and crafts or enjoy a board game!

You may need to do some basic admin work, making phone calls or help with reading newspapers and books.

We would like you to guide the service user to think about the stage they would like to be at in a few months' time; set small goals (e.g. to be able to attend local groups on my own) that you could support them to reach.

You could even accompany service users to lunch clubs and community events, appointments/shopping or dog walking.

Qualities and skills we are looking for:

- Good communication skills
- Friendly and enthusiastic
- Organised
- Sociable
- Respectful and honest

Support provided for you:

- Visual Impairment Awareness training will be provided and take place 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
- Have fun!

Health & Safety:

- Take reasonable care for the Health & Safety of themselves and others whom may be affected by their acts or omissions whilst volunteering.

This volunteering opportunity is subject to a DBS check and two references.

Or

This volunteering opportunity is suitable for volunteers aged 18 years and above and is subject to a DBS check and two references.

Next steps:

For an Application form contact the Volunteer Development Manager

Call **0116 249 8843**

Or email **volunteering@vistablind.org.uk**.

Or by post to Vista 16 New Walk, Leicester, LE1 6UB