



Volunteer role description

Title: **Socialising Volunteer**

Expected Commitment: 2-3 hours per week

Location: Within Leicestershire in person/ remote

- You **can do this role from home** if you are able to join into a group session over the phone or over Zoom/ Teams

About Us:

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

How will you make a difference?

Through your enthusiastic, caring and positive approach you will be providing vital support within your local area helping people with sight loss to be socially active again.

You will be providing friendship, support and encouragement to people living with sight loss in the community and online.

Your friendly approach will help encourage people to use technology, we are not expecting you to be an expert- we just need you to help people to open an email and click on the zoom links to the great sessions we have online!

How you can help?

- over the **phone** support to talk through any challenges getting online
- **face to face** at the person's home to help access Zoom sessions
- or **out in the community**. We want people to be more socially active. You can support people to get back into exercise, get to their local library, leisure centre or favourite shop or visit other services that will benefit their wellbeing and of course learn how to access these online too – if needed!

Are you a confident 'Zoomer'?

If so, do you have an interesting topic to talk about or an activity people with visual impairments can take part in? You can be responsible for hosting a Zoom session once week for up to 40 minutes, for a group of up to 10 people to meet and chat or take part in an activity. You will promote and encourage a friendly and safe environment to allow people to talk, share experiences, hobbies, and general topics as led by the group.

Qualities and skills we are looking for:

- Good communication skills
- Patient and friendly
- Enjoys meeting new people
- Understanding of confidentiality and boundaries
- Organised and reliable
- Technical skills/knowledge an advantage!
- Have a genuine desire to make a difference to the lives of visually impaired people

Support provided for you:

- Induction day at Vista Head Office
- Visual Impairment Awareness training
- Safeguarding Training

- Confidentiality and Boundaries awareness
- Training on how to host a session on Zoom/Teams and how to use various tech/ equipment.

We hope that by becoming a volunteer you:

- Increase your own self confidence and knowledge about sight loss
- Meet new and interesting people
- Feel rewarded for supporting people in your local community
- 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 who may be affected by their acts or omissions whilst volunteering.
- **This volunteering opportunity is suitable for volunteers aged 18 years and above and is subject to an enhanced DBS check.**

Complete our volunteer application form, which you can download from our website: www.vistablind.org.uk/volunteering You can also email volunteering@vistablind.org.uk or call our Volunteer Manager on **07967 799 364**.