

Students and Volunteers

We believe that a placement for a student or volunteer at Olveston Out of School Club is a valuable opportunity to build experience while learning about working within a childcare setting. Equally, we appreciate the positive contribution that such committed and enthusiastic people can bring to our Club.

However, at all times the needs of the children are paramount and therefore a Club needs to restrict the number of students and volunteers admitted at any particular time, in order to minimise disruption to the Club's core activities.

The Club Managers are responsible for ensuring that all students and volunteers working at the Club are suitable and that they will not detrimentally affect the service provided for children and their parents/carers. The Managers have overall responsibility for supervising and supporting students and volunteers while they are at the Club.

All students and volunteers must be 16 years old or over, submit two character referees, and have up to date Criminal Records Bureau checks before they begin their placement at the Club.

The Club Managers will enter into a formal written agreement with students and volunteers at the start of the placement agreeing hours of work, dress code and expected behaviour within the Club. This agreement will also detail what the student or volunteer can expect from the Club. Students and volunteers must read, understand and sign the conditions of work before accepting or making a commitment to voluntary work.

Students will be encouraged to discuss their individual learning needs with the Staffing and Admissions Manager, Helen Day, when they start at the Club, and at regular intervals during their placement.

Students required to conduct child studies beyond the Club's normal activities (ie: conducting a survey or a group based activity) as part of their course will need to obtain appropriate written consent from the parents/carers of the children concerned.

The Managers will ensure that students and volunteers undertake the full induction process given to permanent staff, as set out in the Club's 'Staffing' policy.

New students and volunteers will be allocated a member of staff who will have day to day responsibility for them and their needs while at the Club.

Students and volunteers will be expected to adopt a professional manner at all times, and work within the Club's existing policies and procedures.

Olveston Out of School Club

Cath Purchase, Helen Day

While on the placement, students and volunteers will be both allowed – and expected – to participate in all aspects of work at the Club, unless otherwise instructed by the Club Managers. Students and volunteers will attend staff meetings and be encouraged to contribute ideas and share opinions.

Regular supervision and appraisal sessions with the Staffing and Admissions Manager and the designated member of staff will be established as a means of monitoring progress.

Students and volunteers on placement should not be included in the staff to children ratio.

November 06