

Student Community Action

Volunteering Opportunities in Cambridge



*Join us to make a difference
in your community!*



Registered Charity number 263361

WELCOME TO SCA



We're so happy you're considering volunteering with us here at Student Community Action and hope you find this booklet about some of the opportunities we have in Cambridge useful.

Since our beginnings in 1972, we have offered volunteering opportunities that fit in perfectly with student lifestyles whilst providing invaluable help to vulnerable members of the community. Volunteering, whilst being hugely rewarding, can also add a lot of fun to your university experience and enable you to make friendships that last way beyond your time here!

In this booklet you will find information about our current projects. We are committed to finding the right opportunities for all students keen to volunteer, so please do not hesitate to get in touch, even if nothing jumps out at you, if you are keen to make a difference!

BIG SIBS



CHILDREN



1-2HRS PER WEEK



CLIENTS HOME (TRAVEL REIMBURSED)

Our most popular project, Big Sib volunteers act as an 'adopted' older sibling and mentor for vulnerable children aged between 5 and 11. The children, and their families, have complex needs, facing issues such as bereavement, social exclusion, disability, learning difficulties or issues with behaviour. Volunteers visit their 'Little Sib' around once a week to enjoy activities such as visiting the local playground, cinema trips, cooking, crafts or even just watching TV, anything that gives these children the chance to explore their own interests, have fun, and form a connection with their 'Big Sib.'

working with my Little Sib has been one of the most enjoyable and rewarding things I have done whilst at Cambridge

BETTY'S



ELDERLY CARE HOME RESIDENTS



TBC

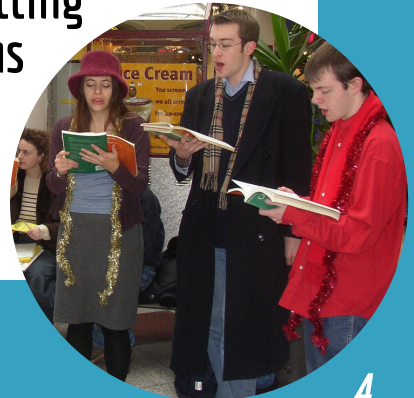


CARE HOMES AROUND CAMBRIDGE



Betty's Musical Entertainment Group provides informal music evenings to residents of local care-homes in the form of sing-alongs, solos and group performances. There are also refreshments and a chance to chat to the residents.

Volunteers of all musical standards are welcome and we also welcome volunteers who simply want to befriend the elderly. Many residents look forward to chatting with our volunteers as much as listening to the music.



BOUNCE



CHILDREN



SATURDAYS 13:30 - 16:00



BROWNFIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE



Bounce is a youth club for primary school children who may be disadvantaged and/or have learning, behavioural or physical disabilities. As a Bounce volunteer, you would help to plan and supervise sports, games, and craft activities.

This is an opportunity for the children to let off steam and have fun with our enthusiastic volunteers. We love having lots of volunteers in order to offer one-to-one support where necessary so this is a great chance for anyone who would prefer to volunteer as part of a fab team!

There's an unexpected catharsis in being chased by a hyperactive nine year old wielding a bowling pin... Give it a try I say!

STORY TIME



CHILDREN



1 HR PER WEEK



WALKING DISTANCE FROM CITY CENTRE



This is for female volunteers only who are able to commit to attending at least every other week.

Story Time involves engaging disadvantaged children in reading and stories. You could be performing stories to the children, helping them to engage themselves using drama or simply reading with them. Storytime also involves playing games and generally having fun!



HOMEWORK HELP - SCHOOLS



CHILDREN



1-2 HRS PER WEEK



SCHOOLS AROUND CAMBRIDGE



The aim of this project is to help children from mainstream primary schools who are having difficulty with their academic work. This is typically in the form of an after school club.

This is a great project if you are looking for experience of working with children in an educational environment. Teaching can be in small groups or on a one-to-one basis. This project usually runs on weekday afternoons in Primary schools around Cambridge.

The staff have been welcoming and helpful and, overall, I am super glad to have volunteered through SCA which has opened up different sides of Cambridge to me

HOMEWORK HELP - 1 to 1



CHILDREN



1 HR PER WEEK



VARIOUS - CENTRAL CAMBRIDGE



Homework Help is a 1-to-1 scheme for children who need extra support with homework. This may be because of learning difficulties, family upheaval, or simply because they are behind in one or two subjects. All clients are referred to us by their school as they are significantly behind their peers.

Volunteers usually visit their child at home once a week and concentrate on helping with homework set by their school. Our volunteers are free to devise their own activities to help the child achieve the required outcome i.e. writing stories or developing maths puzzles



HEAL



CHILDREN AND ADULTS



1-2 HRS PER WEEK



VARIOUS - CENTRAL CAMBRIDGE



HEAL (previously TEAL) is a 1-1 scheme for multi-lingual children or adults who need help with learning or advancing their English, focusing on reading, writing and communication skills.

We do not require HEAL volunteers to have prior training as you will be offering support to clients with their own learning however we do provide training to get you started (n.b. this does not lead to a qualification)

If you do already have training or experience in TEAL, or speak languages other than english, we would love to hear from you.

TASK FORCE



VULNERABLE ADULTS



1 HR PER WEEK



VARIOUS - CENTRAL CAMBRIDGE



Taskforce volunteers provide support for vulnerable adults throughout Cambridge with a variety of needs such as:

Befriending lonely elderly people and/or helping with light tasks ie gardening.

Helping physically disabled people go shopping, attend exercise classes, visit the library etc.

Befriending people with physical or learning disabilities or those suffering with depression or other mental health problems.

Its great that SCA is able to have such a great impact across a multitude of communities and demographics in Cambridge

MORE WAYS TO HELP

The projects in this booklet are just a few of the opportunities SCA has available. We also recruit volunteers for many other Cambridge based organisations covering a wide range of time, skills, and expertise requirements.

Here are some other ways you can help support us at SCA:

Become a college rep: Promote SCA in your college, run events and recruit volunteers.

Become a project leader: Coordinate project volunteers and make decisions on how your project is run.

Join the steering group: Plan large events, make budgeting decisions, develop new projects and assist with recruiting volunteers.

Contact us if you have any ideas for volunteering projects or to explore other ways to support us at SCA!



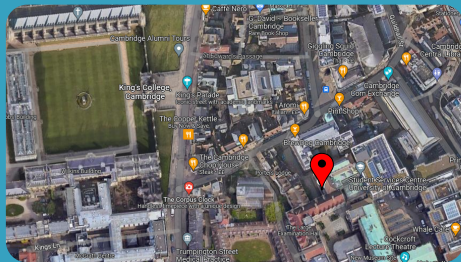
GETTING STARTED!

- Sign up for any of our projects via the Getting Started tab on our website.
- Attend an informal in-person chat and complete the registration process with our Volunteers and Projects Officer.
- Join any of our training sessions, one-off volunteering events or volunteer socials.

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"It's really great to get involved in something helpful which is totally detached from college"

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