

Befriender Volunteer (Independent Visitor) within the Family Hubs Team

Are you looking for a meaningful, long-term volunteering role where you can make a positive difference in a young person's life?

If yes, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

We are seeking compassionate, reliable adults to become Independent Visitors - volunteer mentors and trusted friends to children and young people in care.

What is an Independent Visitor?

An Independent Visitor (IV) is a volunteer befriender and mentor who visits a young person in care to enjoy fun, supportive activities together. As an IV, you'll be a consistent, caring adult outside their professional network - someone who chooses to be there, just for them. We are currently looking for volunteers across Westmorland and Furness, including key areas such as Penrith, Kendal and Barrow.

Who can volunteer?

You don't need previous experience - just the right values and commitment. We're looking for caring people who are: friendly and approachable, patient, empathetic and consistent, a good listener, committed to visiting once a month, willing to complete training and safeguarding checks

What will you be doing?

As an Independent Visitor, you'll:

- Meet your young person once a month for activities like going to the cinema, bowling, exploring parks or just having a chat
- Suggest age-appropriate outings based on their interests
- Occasionally join in on group events
- Create meaningful, lasting memories
- Please note that travel and activity expenses will be covered.

For more information or to register your interest please email volunteerfamilyhelp@cumbria.gov.uk

