

YHA Volunteering

Summer Camp Volunteer Team Leader 2016

About YHA

YHA is a registered UK charity with a clear mission, to inspire all, especially young people, to broaden their horizons gaining knowledge and independence through new experiences of adventure and discovery. YHA offers affordable accommodation to families, groups and individuals exploring and holidaying in England and Wales.

Making a difference

Volunteering at YHA Summer camps is a truly amazing experience! Summer camps give young people the opportunity to gain independence and through outdoor activities.

Volunteering in a fun and vibrant environment, your role will be to inspire and encourage campers to make the most out of their summer camp experience.

The young people attending camp will be aged between 10 and 19.

YHA and Safeguarding

YHA is committed to safeguarding and ensuring the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all volunteers to share this commitment.

The suitability of all prospective volunteers will be assessed during the recruitment process in line with this commitment.

What will I be doing?

As a Volunteer Team Leader you will supervise a group of up to eight young people and will help with;

- Welcoming campers and helping them to settle in and make new friends
- Providing pastoral care and helping with the daily routine of camp
- Supervising campers on breaks and eating with them at meal times

- Encouraging campers to make the most of their camp experience by getting involved in all of the activities on offer
- Delivering evening activities such as craft sessions and games
- Providing lights out and night duties on a rota basis
- Escorting young people to the doctors etc. if required
- And don't forget, you will also get to take part in the activities too!



Where can I do this volunteering role?

This volunteering role is available at the following hostels:

- [YHA Edale](#) (Derbyshire) 3 weeks 13 August to 2 September. [Action Adventure](#) and [Future Leader](#) camps.
- [YHA Coalbrookdale](#) (Shropshire) 4 weeks 23 July to 19 August. [Go Extreme](#) camp.
- [YHA National Forest](#) (Derbyshire) 1 week 30 July [Action Adventure](#) camp.

volunteers@yha.org.uk

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- [YHA Okehampton](#) (Devon) 2 weeks 23 July and 6 August. [Action Adventure](#) camp.
- [YHA Ravenstor](#) (Derbyshire) 1 weeks 20 -26 August. [Action Adventure](#) camp.
- [YHA St Briavels](#) (Glos) 4 weeks 23 July to 19 August. [Action Adventure](#) camp.
- [YHA South Downs](#) (East Sussex) 2 weeks 13-26 August. [Action Adventure](#) camp.

Help with expenses

Expenses to a maximum of £120 are available for travel to training and camp combined. Your accommodation will be in single gender rooms shared with other volunteers. Accommodation and meals are provided free of charge.

Skills, knowledge and experience

We are looking for people who:

- enjoy being around children and young people
- are flexible and able to handle the unexpected
- enjoy working in a team and have good communication and leadership skills.
- are reliable, responsible and able to maintain professional conduct at all times
- are organised and have good timekeeping
- enjoy working in a busy, high-energy environment

Your enthusiasm and willingness to try new experiences will be important in encouraging young people to make the most of activities on offer. All outdoor activities are delivered by qualified instructors so you don't need any specialist activity skills.

Applicants must be aged 18 or over by 23 July 2016.

Volunteers at Future Leader camps must be aged 20 or over due to the age of the participants (17-19 years).

You should apply for this role if you:

- are training to work with young people and need a summer placement or are currently working or volunteering with young people.
- have some experience of delivering activities and/or leading young people
- are willing to take an enhanced DBS check
- are available to volunteer in July/August 2016, preferably for two weeks
- have the Right to Work in the UK

Time commitment

You should be able to give at least one week, preferably two, between 23 July and 2 September 2016. Volunteering weeks start on a Saturday and finish on a Friday. If you have a lot of time to give over the summer please do let us know!

Training course

All volunteers must attend the mandatory training course from the evening of Friday 15th to lunchtime on Sunday 17th July 2016 at [YHA Edale](#) in the Peak District.

Training will include camp routine, your role, dealing with difficult situations, safeguarding and more!



Recruitment process

The recruitment process involves an application form, self-declaration form and DBS check.

You will be required to provide the contact details of two people we can approach for references, one of these must be able to comment upon your experience of working or volunteering with young people.

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You will then be invited to attend a group selection event followed by a short individual interview with our friendly staff.

How do I apply?

Please complete our Volunteer Application Form and send it to volunteers@yha.org.uk. Please include as much information as possible about;

- The skills and experience you have of supervising young people through volunteering or paid employment
- Any previous experience of volunteering at a summer camp or in a similar role

You can also send a copy of your CV if you would like to. All applications must be received by 9 June 2016.

Group selection events

You will be invited to attend a selection event. This will be held on Saturday 11 June at [YHA Manchester](#)

If you are unable to attend this event we will arrange for a Skype interview with you.

What's in it for you?!

There are so many reasons why volunteering at a YHA Summer Camp is a great way to spend your summer! Here are just a few:

- Make new friends and share memories that will last a lifetime
- Banish boredom! This is a fun filled experience where you can try different outdoor activities
- Challenge yourself in new situations
- Develop transferable skills and build your confidence
- Show potential employers/universities that you are motivated and committed to working with young people
- Gain valuable experience for volunteering at summer camps abroad

- This is a short term commitment that will not take up your whole summer
- We will give you valuable training and a reference and certificate for your professional development

You can find out more about a typical day, from a campers' perspective [here](#).

To inspire you get involved, here are what some previous volunteers thought about their time at camp:

"Volunteering for YHA Summer Camp has given me more confidence and a greater sense of self-worth. I met some of the kindest people I have ever met. I can't wait for next year for the chance to do it all again."



"I had a fantastic experience on camp. Working as part of a busy team enabled me to experience a variety of challenging scenarios and learn a lot of skills for communicating and working with young people which I am sure will help me in the future."

If you have any questions please contact our friendly team at the details below.

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