



Autism Group Assistant (sessional work)

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Job Details	
Job Title:	Autism Group Assistant (variable hours)- several posts available
Contractual Status:	Renewable Annually
Organisation:	HOPE for Autism
Location:	North Lanarkshire based
Reporting to:	Programme Coordinator
Closing date:	Midnight 21 st August
	These posts are funded by Children in Need The logo for BBC Children in Need, featuring a yellow bear with a bandage on its head and the text "BBC Children in Need" in black.
2. Job Purpose	
	<p>To help facilitate social groups and activities for autistic young people in North Lanarkshire to help reduce social isolation/exclusion and promote emotional wellbeing. This will include face-to-face and online group work when required. To develop strong, positive relationships with autistic young people to help them develop their confidence, a strong sense of identity and belonging. To engage in play and a range of different fun and meaningful activities, provide feedback on group activities and young peoples' engagement and enjoyment levels. To support young people to communicate their needs, make friends, and regulate their emotions as well as supporting them to achieve their personal goals within a social group setting. This is an important community-based, preventative role.</p>
3. Key responsibilities	

- To take a professional approach to their role and develop strong positive relationships with autistic children and young people
- To work as a team to facilitate social groups and other community-based activities. Online digital group may be required.
- To adopt a calm and positive approach to support children and young people to enjoy their group, make friends and develop meaningful self-regulation/coping skills
- To promote communication, play, self-advocacy, and independence for young people as well as their understanding of autism and neurodiversity
- To demonstrate a positive, relational, and inclusive approach at-all-times, building on children and young people's strengths, special interests and abilities
- Provide support to autistic children and young adults to participate in social activities within planned youth group activities and within the local community.
- Work in a person-centred manner with children and young people in keeping with HOPE's vision, objectives and policies
- Respond to requests to fulfill organisational requirements in keeping with HOPE's youth group structure.
- When necessary, participate in training and continuing professional development relating to the role.
- Participate in HOPE's Monitoring Scheme, including participating in briefing and debriefing sessions, reporting observations and incident form filling

This list is not exhaustive and any other duties as requested.

4. Attributes and Experience

- Experience of working with autistic children and young people and/or experience of working with children and young people with and/or without disabilities
- Experience in delivering fun social/play based activities with children and young people in the community in a paid or voluntary capacity
- Ability to form positive relationships with children and young people ensuring that they are respected, valued and treated with dignity at all times
- Willingness to share personal talents, skills, interests, and hobbies with children and young people in social groups (e.g., art skills, musical skills, gaming knowledge, ect)
- Openness to coaching and feedback from Senior Autism Group Worker to develop knowledge, understanding and use of Good Autism Practice within a social group/community-based setting
- A willingness to take part in ongoing training and Continuing Professional Development
- Flexibility to work evenings and weekends

4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Hourly rate	£9.90 HOPE for Autism is a Living Wage employer
Hours:	Sessional hours- to be discussed at interview