



Volunteer Young Witness Supporter

Role Profile



Have you got what it takes to join our fight for childhood?

The NSPCC Young Witness Service provides support and information to children and young people who may have to give evidence in criminal trials in Northern Ireland.

Volunteers act as a support person for children and their families when they attend court to give evidence in criminal proceedings. All our volunteer Young Witness Supporters are supervised on an on-going basis and supported in helping children and young people deal with the challenging and sometimes intimidating prospect of coming to court as a victim or witness.

We're looking for committed people who:

- ✓ Have at least one year's experience in a caring or supportive role
- ✓ Have availability during normal court operating hours (9-5 Monday to Friday) and occasional evenings
- ✓ Can commit to the role for at least one year after completion of training
- ✓ Are committed to protecting children and young people
- ✓ Can cope with distressing information and situations and use support systems appropriately
- ✓ Have good communication skills with children/young people, parents and professionals
- ✓ Can display a mature and supportive approach
- ✓ Have a willingness to explore attitudes and feelings towards victims, offenders and crime
- ✓ Are good listeners, empathic and non-judgemental
- ✓ Can maintain confidentiality in line with NSPCC policies
- ✓ Are receptive to feedback, learning and continuous improvement
- ✓ Are aware of impact of personal experiences on own outlook
- ✓ Are able to work within a team of volunteers and staff
- ✓ Can work within the Young Witness Service policies and procedures to offer a good service to children and young people

We provide every volunteer with ongoing training and support:

The volunteer recruitment process takes the form of a written application and an interview. Volunteers will take part in 8 days initial training followed by an induction and shadowing period that forms part of the recruitment and selection process.

All our volunteers are fully supported by a named supervisor when undertaking the role and will receive regular one to one and group supervisions. You will also be part of a strong support network to help you grow in your role. There will be opportunities to attend social events and be recognised for your contributions. You will receive out of pocket travel expenses (car mileage, bus or train) in line with NSPCC's expense policy,

Necessary enhanced background checks and references:

A satisfactory enhanced criminal record check is a requirement for the role (Access NI). A CTC check is also required by the Northern Ireland Courts Service. We ask our volunteers to provide all relevant identity and right to work in the UK documents at interview. While volunteering, a re-check must be processed when validity has elapsed. At least two satisfactory references covering a minimum period of 5 years with no gaps is required. We cannot accept references from partners/ex-partners or family members.

Apply now: <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do> or VolunteerRecruitment@nspcc.org.uk

or email billy.eagleson@nspcc.org.uk or call on: 028 9448 7568