

Volunteer

[The Harbour](#), a self-managed learning community in Oxford, seeks volunteers to join our community. As a volunteer, you will work with our staff and with young people to support their self-directed learning and help maintain an authentic and inclusive community. We are looking for diversity in our volunteers to represent the wide variety of interests, abilities and demographics of the community in Oxford.

The role

The adults' role in The Harbour is to support young people in holding a self-managed consent-based learning community. We do that by establishing trusting relationships, developing a genuine curiosity in our young people's interests and choices, and facilitating respectful, open and non-judgemental conversations about our community members' ideas, values and needs.

We actively value young people's diversity across age, gender, race, culture, ability, neurotype and social background.

What will you be doing throughout the day?

We are not a school. As such, we do not have a prescribed curriculum, classes, exams or timetables. However, we do have a structure to our programme and to our week.

There are three ways in which you can volunteer with us:

1. As an adult community participant, two mornings a week. In this case, you will support the facilitators in greeting young people when they come in, participating in community meetings, and supervising young people until the end of the day and throughout the 13 weeks term. In this case, you will be offered a free spot for your young person to join us if our setting is a good fit for them.
2. As an adult community participant, one morning a week. In this case, you will support the facilitators in greeting young people when they come in, participating in community meetings, and supervising young people until the end of the day and throughout the 13 weeks term.
3. In other non-facilitative roles that interest you and us, such as fundraising, as an on-call substitute when a staff member is unwell, or as a guest facilitator for a one-time workshop relevant to your skill set.

You will be reporting to The Harbour's lead facilitators and are expected to report on any safeguarding concern you may have.

We are looking for volunteers who:

- Deeply believe in self-directed consent-based learning of young people.
- Are reliable, punctual and are safety- and privacy-conscious.
- Are adaptive to daily changes, possess high levels of personal maturity and authenticity and can respectfully manage differences of opinions and feedback.
- Have their own passions and interests and are looking to share them with young people (anything from art, music, sciences, drama, outdoors, hand work, forest school/bushcraft skills etc.)

The fine print

- We will provide safeguarding and other induction training and required professional training, and if needed, will pay for a DBS check.
- We operate two mornings a week, starting September 2023, with a half-term break at the w/c on October 23rd. 4.25 hours each (09:30-1:00 PM), term time only.

To Apply

- It is essential that you read the job description below and see how your skills and experience apply. Please also read about our [values](#) and [learning guidelines](#) to ensure you fit in culturally.
- Please download [this form](#), fill it and submit it to hello@oxford-harbour.org.
- We would like to know why you want to join our community and if there is any way we can support you.
- We will acknowledge the receipt of your application and aim to return within a week to schedule an interview if we see a potential fit. In the case of a successful interview, we will ask (or run if there is none) an enhanced DBS check and ask for proof of identity, proof of address and proof of right to work in the UK.
- please contact us for any questions or informal chats at hello@oxford-harbour.org.