

Language Support Volunteer

Availability required - Thursdays (weekly) 2pm - 5pm - Heritage House, DMU

Role – Language Support Volunteer

Responsible to – Chief Officer

Our new Intro to English sessions are aimed at creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for people seeking sanctuary. We need volunteers who can actively engage and support people, recognising that we all learn at different paces. We want our learners to gain confidence in communicating, and help them with navigating their new community. This role covers our Intro to English for beginners (2pm - 4pm) and our Conversation Club (4pm - 5pm) for intermediate learners.

Volunteers in this role will ideally have the following skills and attributes:

- Alignment with Leicester City of Sanctuary's values
- Interest in working with people seeking sanctuary
- TEFL/ESOL experience an advantage but not essential
- Ability to encourage and support people learning to speak English in a non-judgemental way
- Strong communication skills and the ability to connect and build relationships with people from different backgrounds
- Language skills (Arabic, Amharic, Tigrinya, Farsi, Dari) are desirable but not essential

Overall duties

- to work alongside employed staff and other volunteers to support the delivery of weekly sessions that support people to learn and practice their English

In practice this is likely to involve:

- Helping to set up and clear away the space
- Welcoming participants and helping create a friendly, inclusive environment, particularly for anyone new
- Encouraging, supporting and helping learners to practice their language skills
- Being mindful of cultural sensitivity, safeguarding, confidentiality, and inclusion at all times
- Being aware of health and safety requirements and supporting staff to maintain a safe environment
- Any other duties that may reasonably be asked, subject to time commitment

Volunteer commitments

- to be available for weekly workshop sessions during the project period, subject to reasonable advance notice of any unavailability
- to be contactable by phone/email and attend occasional meetings or briefings if required (with prior notice)
- to support the Vision, Mission and Strategic Priorities of LCoS

- to abide by the values and all policies of LCoS, including safeguarding, equality and diversity, confidentiality, and health and safety

LCoS will provide

- Support, induction and training as required, and regular check-ins to ensure the volunteering arrangement is working well
- Reimbursement of agreed expenses in line with current policy
- Access to relevant policies, guidelines and procedures required for the role

Enquiries to: Volunteering@leicester.cityofsanctuary.org