

# Seeking volunteers for an exciting opportunity!

# Become a Roots of Empathy Volunteer Instructor

Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based programme that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression, including bullying, among primary school children while raising social and emotional competence and increasing empathy.

Join an international award winning educational charity as volunteer Instructor and make a difference to primary school children.

"I think the biggest impact on me has been how I am as a parent. I have two children who are very different from each other. If I had not learned about temperament and the messages in Roots of Empathy, I would have felt like a failure as a parent. These are the gifts of Roots of Empathy that I had no way of comprehending when I started as an instructor ten years ago. It seeps into every corner of my life, as a parent, as a spouse, as a manager to my teams, and as a sister, daughter, and niece! I know we talk about the changes that children go through as a result of participating in Roots of Empathy - their increasing capacity for learning and loving - but the changes as an instructor are also profound and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity to participate and be involved." -Rene Hawkes, Roots of Empathy Instructor

**ADDRESS WHERE VOLUNTEERING TAKES PLACE:** Various Primary Schools in Liverpool

## **HOW MANY PLACES ARE ON OFFER?** 10

**ROLE DESCRIPTION:** At the heart of the Roots of Empathy programme is a local baby and parent who visit the class every three weeks, over the school year. The Roots of Empathy Instructor visits the week before and the week after each family visit to prepare and reinforce teachings using a specialised lesson plan for each visit.



Instructors are trained to deliver all aspects of the Roots of Empathy programme to children in the classroom. Using the curriculum and philosophies of Roots of Empathy, Instructors guide the children in the experiential learning that happens around the green blanket, helping the children to observe and reflect on the baby's feelings, then their own, and those of their classmates, friends and family.

During the initial 3-day training, Instructors are given all the Roots of Empathy learning materials necessary to deliver the programme. Throughout the first year, Instructors are supported by a Mentor through phone calls, email messages and a classroom visit.

The cost of training and support for Roots of Empathy Instructors is a substantial investment, and therefore communities expect certified Instructors to commit to a minimum of two consecutive years of instruction.

Instructors deliver one programme in their first year.

## **SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

Roots of Empathy Instructors are community volunteers who have an openness to understand and embrace the mission, goals, philosophy, and values of Roots of Empathy and an enthusiasm and ability to work in an interactive way with children in the programme.

Expertise and knowledge in the following areas is an asset:

- Experience with children ages 5 to 11 in a classroom setting
- Infant development/child development

Instructors often have backgrounds or experience in the some of the fields listed below.

- Education psychologists
- school volunteers
- domestic violence counsellors
- recently retired teachers
- early childhood educators
- family support workers
- social workers
- health visitors



- youth and child welfare workers
- school & public health nurses
- speech/language specialists
- police & firefighters

Note: For this programme we are looking for volunteer Instructors who able to make commitment for at least two years of Roots of Empathy delivery and are able to work in a school they are assigned to. Wherever possible we will make sure that Instructors are placed at a school that is in their local area.

#### WHEN REQUIRED:

APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED ASAP The training is scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> November

**SIGN UP:** <a href="https://rootsofempathy.org/instructor/">https://rootsofempathy.org/instructor/</a>

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Are there age restrictions for this opportunity? Yes Age Restrictions:

18+

Are there gender restrictions for this opportunity? No

Is the opportunity accessible to disabled people? Yes Disability restrictions:

Please talk to us about your access needs

# How long before volunteer can expect a response?

We will respond to volunteer enquiries within one week

# How long to complete training and recruitment?

This opportunity has a comprehensive training programme. See Role Description for more information.

# **DBS Disclosure required?** Yes

If you are interested in this volunteering opportunity please contact Katie Cohen <a href="mailto:kcohen@rootsofempathy.org">kcohen@rootsofempathy.org</a> or call 0771-408-3042