



VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION:

Care Home Befriender volunteer

Why get involved with the Royal British Legion (RBL)?

You don't need to be an RBL member or have links to the Armed Forces community to volunteer with us. You'll be joining the UK's leading Armed Forces charity, the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community through thick and thin – ensuring their unique contribution is never forgotten.

How will I make a difference as a *Care Home Befriender* volunteer?

In this role you will be supporting the Royal British Legion by contributing to the smooth operation of the Care Home's functions by visiting and providing companionship and friendship to residents, either on a one to one basis or in a group situation.

What will I be doing as a *Care Home Befriender* volunteer?

- Talking with residents and reminiscing.
- Sharing and developing interests and/or skills. For example, supporting residents with their digital skills.
- Reading to residents.
- Helping residents to join into activities and play games.
- Accompanying residents on short trips.

If you speak a particular language or have a particular skill, such as craft, please let us know so that we can help match you with a resident.

In some homes it may be possible to befriend residents with dementia.

In this role you will NOT be:

- Providing personal or nursing care to residents.
- Offering a counselling service to residents.

What skills and experience would I need, or could I develop?

- Good listeners and enjoy conversation.
- Able to communicate clearly with staff and residents.
- Caring, patient, with a sensitive manner and have a non-judgemental approach.
- Understanding of and empathising with needs of older people, with the ability to observe and identify areas of concern.
- Committed to acting in line with Legion policies and procedures, including those relating to data protection; confidentiality; safeguarding; health and safety and equality and diversity.

- **This role is purely voluntary, and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract.**



What support will be available to me?

- A designated person to discuss your volunteering with.
- Training and opportunities for further development.
- A handbook to support your volunteering.
- Day to day support from a member of the team.

What else do I need to know?

Where:	Volunteer role to be carried out in the home
Time commitment:	A regular weekly commitment of time, which will be agreed with your volunteer manager.
Training/Resources:	Induction. Annual in-house training courses.
Expenses:	Reasonable out-of-pocket costs agreed in advance will be reimbursed.
Extra Information:	The minimum age for Care Home Befriender volunteer is 18 years old. Two* satisfactory references and a criminal record (DBS) check are required. *If you are already a RBL volunteer or member, we will only require one reference, from your RBL contact.

In order to comply with charity regulations, we reserve the right to carry out additional screening if we consider it appropriate to do so.

Covid – 19:	RBL Covid-19 secure guidance and risk assessments along with Government Guidelines must be implemented/adhered to.
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What are the benefits for me?

- Be part of a committed and friendly team.
- Excellent socialising opportunities.
- Develop and learn new skills in a care environment with excellent CV building.
- An opportunity to make a difference to the Armed Forces community.

RBL values and behaviours' – does the following describe you?

- Passionate about supporting the Armed Forces community and honouring their contribution.
- A desire to provide great support in all that you do.
- Enjoy and thrive in working in teams and with others.
- An encourager, eager to share your knowledge and experience to help others.
- Committed to being the best you can and to learn and develop new and existing skills.

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