

Engaging young people as volunteers

- Have conversations with young people, learn about their interests and find or create volunteer roles that suit.
- Advertise through education providers or on social media, make sure young people know about your volunteer roles.
- Go to where young people are (schools, universities, sporting clubs) and present information about your volunteering face to face.
- Treat young people as equals.
- Provide interesting and fun tasks, not just tasks that no one else wants to do.
- Avoid stereotyping about what young people can or can't do e.g. being good with technology.
- Provide any required uniforms, PPE, or other necessary items at no cost.
- See if you can collaborate with schools to have students volunteer during school hours or offer volunteering outside of school hours.
- Understand that there may be personality and generational differences, be willing to share and learn together.
- Consider how young people can get to your organisation e.g. nearest public transport stops
- Manage expectations and set achievable goals, have patience with young volunteers while they're learning.
- Host "come and try" events.
- Check your insurance covers volunteers under 18 years of age.
- Have a dedicated staff member or volunteer who supports young volunteers, who is good at connecting with younger people.
- Understand young people's motivations to volunteer and see how you can help e.g. school curriculum, work experience, learning new skills.
- Offer group or one-off volunteer opportunities where classes or groups of young people can help out together.
- Make volunteering fun!

