

About Hummingbird Project

The Hummingbird Project is a Brighton based organisation whose services have been developed by listening & responding to the needs of local young refugees. Along with Learning Space, we currently provide 1:1 support, hold a weekly youth club, a women's group and a Young Leaders' Group. We also actively campaign for the rights & protection of refugees.

What is Learning Space?

A drop-in space for young people from refugee and asylum seeking backgrounds to come for education support. This can be for any subject at any level, some come for exam support while others come for English practice or support with homework. We try to match young people with volunteers according to the needs of the young people and the skills and experience of volunteers. For instance, in the past volunteers have provided support with maths and English GCSE, nursing and access courses and IELTS preparation.

Young people who we work with have come from a variety of backgrounds, some have had some education before arriving in the UK and others may have never been to school at all. In our Learning Space they have a chance to catch up if they have missed education due to leaving their home country and can learn more about the UK education system.

We provide:

- 1-1 and small group ESOL tuition
- Support for other subjects including maths and science
- Support with exam preparation like GCSEs, A Levels, IELTS
- Support with applying for university or college
- Help with applications and CVs

When and where?

- Wednesdays 6-7pm. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 5.45pm and leave at 7.15pm to allow for a check in and debrief.
- Address: BMECP, 10A Fleet St, Brighton BN1 4ZE

Time commitment

We are looking for volunteers to come weekly for at least a 6 month period.

What will you be doing?

You will be working 1-1 or with a small group of young people to teach them English or support their school/college work. They may have homework with them from college, or you may need to provide activities and exercises for them.

In particular we are looking for:

- Volunteers to hold a **beginners English conversation session** (ESOL teaching experience would be beneficial)
- Volunteers with experience teaching **English and maths at Secondary level**
- Volunteers with a background teaching **science subjects**

What challenges might you face?

As this is a drop-in service, we can't guarantee numbers. It may be really busy or really quiet. Bring some work of your own that you can get on with if things are quiet, and have some fun group activities up your sleeves if things get busy!

The young people we work with have a wide range of English abilities. As such, you need to be comfortable teaching absolute beginners as well as more advanced students.

You will be teaching young refugees. Although it is not your role to talk with them about their experiences, you need to be aware that some of them will be experiencing trauma and some exercises may trigger responses. We all have a safeguarding responsibility to pass on any concerns to the appropriate people.

What skills/experience do you need?

- Dedication and reliability - the most important thing is that you are able to turn up every week, or let us know in advance if you can't make it. We need to be able to rely on staffing numbers, and our young people need to build trust in their relationship with you.
- Ability to form positive relationships with young people. This is not a school or college environment, and how we relate to each other should reflect that.
- Teaching experience, particularly ESOL, would be a great advantage.
- Clean and current DBS check registered with the update service preferred.

What will we provide?

- Safeguarding training
- DBS check (if required)
- An induction process to ensure you know what we're about and best practice with regard to safeguarding and other procedures
- An enthusiastic, dedicated team who will support you throughout
- The opportunity to work some amazing young people in a positive and rewarding environment