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**Title:** Buddy Club Volunteer

**Basis:** Volunteer

**Safeguarding:** PVG check required

**Responsible to:** Moredun Community Builder

**Responsible for:** Supporting the running of a lunchtime club within the local primary school (Buddy Club), providing a safe space for pupils to talk through various topics with games, arts and crafts and discussion.

**Context of the role:**

Bethany provides a suite of services which support people struggling with issues of homelessness helping them to: find suitable accommodation and furnish their homes, tackle addictions, learn new skills and gain employment, develop positive social networks and become active members of their local communities. This role is part of Homelessness Prevention, specifically the community work done in Moredun. The aim of this project is to help P4-P7 children in having an hour of fun activities and games, including arts and crafts to build children’s confidence and communication, as well as providing a safe environment to build healthy friendships and learn new skills.

**Summary of the role:**

Building and supporting resilient communities is a key part of the work done at Bethany Christian Trust. One way to do this is assisting children in discussing topics that will help bring understanding into areas such as confidence, self-worth, and coping strategies. We do this by putting on games, arts, crafts and discussions to highlight these areas so that they can go on to use the learning within their day to day life.

**General responsibilities:**

* Work with Bethany staff in leading and facilitating a game, discussion or an arts and craft activity and encouraging the children to take part.
* Engage positively with children, many of whom face difficult challenges in their lives, and may have additional support needs.
* There may be a small amount of preparation required and pre discussion with Bethany staff about the topic and activity for the session.
* The volunteer will support staff in implementing health and safety procedures and refer to Bethany staff should they have concerns about an individual or situation within the group especially regarding child protection.

**Important pre-requisites for the role:**

* Ideally, the volunteer will have experience of working with children and feel comfortable helping to oversee a group.
* In working with children, the volunteer will need to be an adept & patient communicator.
* Children can get frustrated or distracted and the volunteer would need to be able to guide them back to the activity while still making the session a positive experience.
* The volunteer should be enthusiastic and welcoming, whilst also being aware of appropriate boundaries.
* Volunteers must complete the necessary induction for this role.
* Volunteers will help to set up for any activities and to clear away after the group has finished. For this reason a volunteer should arrive on time and give as much notice as possible if they are unable to volunteer.
* Volunteers must be comfortable and in sympathy with our mission and values: “Our Mission is to relieve the suffering and meet the long-term needs of homeless and vulnerable people in Scotland while our values are to put Christian love into action and demonstrate the transforming impact of the Gospel in all that we do.”

**Location**

* The group runs in Craigour Primary School in Moredun, Edinburgh (EH17 7HL)

**Pattern of hours**

* The group runs on a Wednesday at 12pm – 1.30pm during term time

Last updated October 2023