

mindroom

Transitions Service

Volunteering with us



No Mind Left Behind

For over twenty years we have been making a huge difference to the lives of neurodivergent children, young people, and their families. Salvesen Mindroom Centre is a charity that champions all forms of neurodiversity and supports all kinds of minds. Our mission is to be a leading centre for change in how we live, work and learn. We achieve this through support, education, and advocacy.

Transitions Service

Since 2018 we have been working directly with young people who are approaching the transition from school into adult life. Our transitions service works alongside young people to help them to consider their strengths, interests and needs and to share their views regarding their post school transition, using our resource Future Me.



Our transitions service is fully funded by the Scottish Government through The Promise Scotland, an organisation that exists to support Scotland in keeping its promise to care experienced children and young people that they will grow up loved, safe, and respected.

How we work

We meet 1-to-1 with young people, usually in school, for up to an hour a week over half a school year. We have found that the young people receiving our support develop a clearer idea of what they want for themselves, improve their self-esteem, and have more confidence in choosing and taking their next steps.

Future Me

The activities in Future Me help them to reflect on their hopes and dreams for the future, their skills and qualities, and some aspects of what living as an adult could mean for them.

In a nutshell, Future Me helps a young person to think about their own views on what they want to do when they leave High School so that they can tell other people.

Core activities:

Setting the Scene • My General Skills • My Independent Living Skills • My Personal Qualities • Sharing my Information • My next steps

Optional activities

Selected as part of the Future me process:

My Education & Training • My Career Plan • My Money • Independent Travel

Optional extras

Workplace Visit

We may arrange and facilitate a visit to a local employer. Young people learn more about being an employee, including what sort of expectations might be made of them, as well as what support they should expect in a workplace environment.

College Visit

An opportunity for young people to learn more about the difference between life in school and life at college, the expectations made of them there and what support they should expect in a college environment.

SQA Employability Award at SCQF Level 3 or 4

For students who would benefit from gaining a formal qualification we can tailor Future Me to focus on the delivery of the SQA Employability Award at either SCQF Level 3 or 4.

Volunteering with us

We need volunteers to work with us across Scotland to deliver our transitions service in schools near them!

What a volunteer does

Our volunteers work 1-to-1 with young people, usually in a school near them. Occasionally we support young people who are not able to attend school and so offer to meet in their home or a local community setting. Volunteers commit to 1-3 hours each week for a minimum of half a school year and typically work with up to 3 young people, depending on their availability. The volunteer works alongside the young person to discuss and complete the activities in Future Me.

Qualifications

Volunteers do not need any qualifications to work with us. Much more important is being the right type of person for this sort of volunteering work.

Qualities

Building a trusting relationship is key to being an effective transitions service volunteer. You will need to be open-minded, understanding, patient, friendly and easy to talk to as well as being confident communicating with young people and professionals.

Requirements

The minimum requirements of all volunteers are:

- Age 18 or over
- Available for 1-3 hours a week
- Available for a minimum of half a school year (around 5 months)
- Available during the school day (9am – 3pm)
- Completion of our training programme
- Completion of a criminal records background check through the Scottish Government PVG Scheme

Training

Before appointing a volunteer to a school we provide comprehensive training, which covers an introduction to neurodiversity, child protection, how to use Future Me (including assessing work for the SQA qualification) and other essentials. There is also the opportunity to meet with other volunteers and engage in ongoing training throughout your time with us, including complimentary access to the professional training offered through our own training department.

Getting started!

If you'd like to consider becoming one of our transitions service volunteers, or simply want to know more, then we would love to hear from you! Just get in touch using the contact details below and we'll arrange a brief informal chat. If you decide that you would like to continue then we'll ask you to complete an application form and Volunteer Agreement so that we can arrange training with you and get started!

Contact us

To arrange a chat about becoming a transitions service volunteer please:

Email: andrew@mindroom.org

Telephone: 0131 370 6730

For more information on the Salvesen Mindroom Centre, including our range of services and training as well as on neurodiversity, please visit our website:

www.mindroom.org.uk

For more information on The Promise Scotland and its commitment to care experienced young people please visit their website:

www.thepromise.scot

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