



Youth Support Worker

Job Description and Person Specification

- Purpose:** As part of the youth work team to develop and deliver positive professional relationships with young people, to support their participation and engagement in a range of informal educational opportunities.
- Location:** UTASS base in Middleton-in-Teesdale (with some off-site working)
- Salary:** £12.19 per hour
- Contract:** Permanent
- Hours:** Sessional Work paid for hours worked
- Reports to:** Youth Team Lead

UTASS (Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services) is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee based in Middleton-in-Teesdale. UTASS began informally in 1993 as a community response to an epidemic of suicides locally, before being formally established in May 2000. UTASS works with and for the communities across the Durham Dales, helping people gain access to the services, advice and resources that they need so they feel supported, valued, happier and more able to cope. UTASS has a dedicated team of fifteen part-time staff, including three Youth Support Workers, and is overseen by a board of 8 trustees. The charity is supported by 20 regular volunteers, with a range of additional volunteers currently supporting our Covid-19 community response work.

More information about UTASS and the services/activities we provide can be found on our Website: www.utass.org

At UTASS we are passionate about providing quality opportunities for local young people. In a world pre-Covid-19 UTASS held three weekly drop-in sessions for young people 8 years + at our Middleton-in-Teesdale venue.

Youth Support Workers facilitated sessions that provided the opportunity for young people to come together in a safe and engaging space, where they could spend time with other young people, develop new friendships, participate in a range of activities ranging from sports and computer games, to baking and crafts and ask for help and support with a variety of issues as and when needed.

In addition to this regular programme several off-site trips and activities were also delivered throughout school holidays.

Since March 2020, the UTASS team has continued to provide a wide range of opportunities for young people remotely, which has focussed on self-led activities to do at home including doorstep deliveries of Cook Your Own Tea recipe bags, with

ongoing contact with young people also being maintained via telephone and social media.

This role is a new exciting opportunity to join the UTASS team to help develop the programme of activities for local young people as we move forward. We are looking for a driven and motivated individual who is passionate about providing opportunities that empower young people. You will work together with the Youth Team Lead, other Youth Support Workers, young people, their families and other organisations to develop and deliver an ongoing programme of opportunities that will meet local identified needs and interests.

Key Tasks

- To attend regular youth engagement sessions, including onsite and offsite activities.
- To develop and deliver activities and projects together with young people which enable their personal development and increase their aspirations for the future.
- To promote opportunities to get involved with activities through a variety of media.
- Build relationships with children, young people and their families.
- To ensure young people are involved in the design, delivery and evaluation of all projects/ programmes of youth work.
- Support young people to raise funds.
- To support the Youth Team Lead in maintaining accurate records, including incident/accident reports, collate and input data on to management information systems ensuring relevant data is recorded in line with service requirements and funding arrangements.
- To ensure that service delivery complies with current regulations, accepted professional standards, UTASS policies and procedures and appropriate legislation (including legislation on data protection, equalities, health and safety and safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).
- To attend relevant meetings.
- Other activities deemed commensurate with the role.

Person Specification

Education and Training	Essential	Desirable
Sound basic education, including Maths and English to GCSE Grade 4 or above (or equivalent)	√	
Relevant vocational qualification - level 2 or 3 or equivalent in youth related subject		√
A willingness to undertake mandatory and role specific training within a specified timescale.	√	
Either hold a recent Safeguarding level ½ qualification or be prepared to undergo training for that.	√	

Skills	Essential	Desirable
Ability to demonstrate effective collaborative working in youth and community settings with good organisational and time management skills	√	
Ability to develop positive working relationships within a team. A flexible and a good team player	√	
Ability to work in a self-directed manner and act upon own initiative, responding proactively to changing situations	√	
Ability to collate information and prepare reports		√
Good people skills and self-awareness	√	
Sensitivity and empathy to the challenges sometimes facing UTASS's client group	√	
Confident with computer and IT use, including Word, Excel	√	
Good written and verbal communication, at a level appropriate to the audience	√	

Experience	Essential	Desirable
Experience of delivering activities for young people in a community setting	√	
Experience of developing new innovative programmes of activity and projects together with young people		√

Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Understanding of issues and challenges facing children, young people and families living in the Durham Dales	√	
Knowledge and understanding of working with farming families and rural communities		√
Knowledge and understanding of working in a youth setting and ability to maintain safety throughout working practices	√	
A good understanding of personal limitations, ability to identify when to seek advice and support, and deal with issues in a professional manner	√	

Personal Qualities	Essential	Desirable
Values and beliefs which are aligned to the work of UTASS	√	
Passionate and self-motivated with an ability to generate new ideas and a 'can do' proactive approach to work	√	
Friendly, welcoming and pleasant manner	√	
Ability to work evenings and occasional weekends	√	

Annual Leave Entitlement: 28 days including bank holidays (pro-rata).

Pension: Pension scheme operated in line with auto-enrolment requirements.

Additional: Post holder will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check.