

# VOLUNTEERING AWARD

## TEACHER IN CHARGE

Miss S Edwards  
s.edwards@dallamschool.co.uk

## TYPE OF QUALIFICATION

N/A – work experience and community engagement

## EXAM BOARD

N/A

## SPECIFICATION

N/A

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Energy, enthusiasm and teamwork!



## AIMS OF THE AWARD

- Gain confidence. Volunteering can help you gain confidence by giving you the chance to try something new and build a real sense of achievement.
- Make a difference.
- Meet people outside of your age group.
- Be part of a community.
- Learn new, transferable skills.
- Take on a challenge.
- Have fun!

## AWARD OUTLINE

Year 12 students undertaking the award complete a Sixth Form Volunteering Agreement form at the start of the academic year. This form, which is retained by school, lists the details of the placement, supervisor and the dates and times of activity. The placement is sought by the student and is down to them to decide where they would like to spend their time volunteering and/or gaining unpaid work experience. The students sign to say that they will attend regularly each Wednesday afternoon throughout the year, will follow instructions and adhere to the rules and regulations of the placement as described and will contact their supervisor and Sixth Form Office in advance if they are unable to attend.

A parent/carer of the student also signs the Sixth Form Volunteering Agreement form giving permission for their son/daughter to take part in the specific activity named on the sheet and to travel to and from the placement in the way described by the student. The form is then retained by School.

## PROSPECTS

Volunteering is a great way to use your skills to help others, and at the same time learn something new which may lead to a qualification. There are many volunteering opportunities so it's worth thinking about what you want to do and what you want to get out of it. If you want to volunteer to help boost your future career, think carefully about the skills and experience you need. Don't be afraid to be upfront about this when you apply for opportunities – as long as you are willing to show commitment to your voluntary work, most organisations will welcome the fact that it could have benefits for you. Volunteering can give you a broad range of learning opportunities:

- many volunteer placements will allow you to develop your 'key skills', the skills you need to get on in the workplace, in learning and in life
- volunteering shows independence and willingness to push yourself into new and unfamiliar environments, something viewed as extremely positive by universities and employers
- some volunteers receive vocational training in specialist areas such as social care, working with the elderly, or working with children
- some roles require specific training such as volunteering as a special constable with your local police force