

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION | Deputy Chief Leader

This is a Senior Leadership team role. The Senior Leadership team oversees and supports the expedition party and is based at Base Camp throughout the expedition.

A "Fire" is a group of approx. 10 Young Explorers. Expedition parties consist of up to 5 Fires, (each Fire is led by a second, and possibly third Leader) and the Base Camp team.

Overview

The Deputy Chief Leader (DCL) role varies on each expedition. The DCL will work closely with the expedition's Chief Leader to take a prominent role in planning and training before & during expedition, and in post expedition reporting.

On larger expeditions, this is a Leader position in its own right whilst in others it may be an additional responsibility allocated to an existing Leader position i.e. you could be both a group ('Fire') Leader or Base Camp Manager as well as the DCL.

In all cases, the Deputy Chief Leader would assume overall responsibility for the expedition should the Chief Leader need to step down for any reason. The Deputy Chief Leader may also assume responsibility for all or part of the expedition either as necessity dictates, or as part of their ongoing personal development, in agreement with their Chief Leader.

Applicants to the DCL position should read the Chief Leader job description before applying and ensure they are satisfied with stepping into the Chief Leader role if needed.

Responsibilities

Pre-Expedition

- Attend training residentials in the UK during the 6 months prior to the expedition. UK Training requirements are specific to each expedition and the needs of the Young Explorers and may include 3-4 training weekends and/or a training week. All training events are considered mandatory.
- As appropriate, the DCL is likely to be involved in the delivery of training to other Leaders and to Young Explorers.
- Contribute significantly to planning, risk-benefit assessments, expedition-specific guidelines and similar as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or the Chief Leader, particularly in your area of expertise.

On Expedition

- To inspire our Young Explorers and engage fully in activities to support the educational aims and purpose of the society and expedition.
- All Leaders must regard it as a priority to ensure the safety of each and every member of the expedition at all times.
- Support the Chief Leader and be prepared to take significant responsibilities in the field.
- Deliver training to both Young Explorers and Leaders as per the training syllabus and as pertinent to the expedition, environment, and proposed activity.

- Manage and support the expedition leadership team throughout, taking care always to maintain safety and to deliver the aims of the expedition and the wider organisation objectives.
- Undertake the roles and responsibilities of an expedition Leader as delegated by the Chief Leader
- To lead, direct and support Leaders and Young Explorers during the expedition, and be prepared to step into the role of Chief Leader if requested by the organisation should injury or incapacitation require.

Post Expedition

- To produce an overview report for the activities you have overseen.
- Contribute to the overall post expedition report (PXR), and expedition feedback as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or Chief Leader.
- Attend the expedition debrief event & presentation. This is usually a single day event held in London or around within three months post expedition.

Person Specification

*LP = Leader Profile

AD = Assessment Day

I = Interview

Essential Skills	Assessment*
Proven experience of managing and leading projects and people.	LP, I
An interest in youth development and significant experience of working with disadvantaged groups or young people facing challenges. ¹	LP, AD, I
High levels of integrity and sound judgement.	AD, I
A strong and flexible team player.	AD
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.	AD, I
Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire others.	LP, AD, I
The ability to deal with conflict and overcome challenges.	AD, I
Multi-night, experience in outdoor or remote/self-supporting environment.	LP, I
Experience of managing safety, writing and implementing risk assessments and managing incidents.	LP, AD, I
An understanding and experience of managing teams and projects at remote location.	LP, I
An enthusiasm for expeditions and the ability to convey this to our Young Explorers	I
Recognised 16-hour adventure/wilderness First Aid Qualification (Provided free of charge by British Exploring Society if required)	LP

¹ we work with a wide range of young people including those with special educational needs, low aspirations, emotional and behavioural difficulties or specific developmental or support needs.

Personal Attributes

Core Value	How Core Values appear as a characteristic, behaviour or competency
Courage	Tackles new tasks, can embrace difficult decision-making and conversations, and supports other to do the same.
Self-belief	Is resilient, responds well to knock backs, likes opportunities to learn from mistakes.
Challenge	Has a can do attitude, gets hands on as needed, quickly learn from setbacks and adapt behaviour to drive success.
Community	Is an authentic, mature communciator who values a wide range of stakeholder equally.

Building an inclusive community of Leaders

British Exploring Society is committed to building an executive and volunteer team that together represent a diverse variety of backgrounds, skills, and perspectives on the world. The more inclusive we are, the better we think we'll be at delivering our charitable aims.

Our focus is on supporting those most disadvantaged in childhood and adolescence. To deliver our charitable aims, and secure our future, our actions and behaviours must support our commitment to welcoming young people, volunteers and team members from backgrounds and life experiences which reflect our aims and the changing dynamics of contemporary life. We are making good progress providing access and programmes which work for young people from right across society, but we urgently need to diversify our staff and volunteer teams. We actively seek the energy, wisdom, and challenge of those who represent the life experiences of the young people we serve, and who can increase our effectiveness as a team.

How to apply

We recruit volunteers on a rolling basis. Once you have expressed an interest, you will be invited to complete an application which will be reviewed and if successful, you will be invited to attend an online group half-day assessment.

1. [Express an interest](#).
2. Complete an application.
3. Attend an online group assessment day.
4. Complete an interview with a member of the expedition team and CEO.