

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION | Social Leader

This is a "Fire" Leader role. A "Fire" is a group of approx. 10 Young Explorers.

Expedition parties consist of up to 5 Fires, (each led by a second, and possibly third Leader) and the Base Camp team.

Overview

In partnership with a second, and possibly third Leader, you will lead a Fire of 8-12 Young Explorers. Social Leader role is to ensure that all young people can develop and thrive on our expeditions. They provide additional support with pastoral care and behavioral management for young people, particularly those facing challenges. Social Leaders will have demonstrable experience of working with young people in residential environments.

Senior Social Leaders

Take overall responsibility for pastoral care and behavioural management concerns on their program, leading pre-expedition training on specific support needs and offering support to Social Leaders throughout expedition. They will screen referral forms and any additional information regarding support needs ahead of the expedition, and will complete the Social post-expedition report.

Responsibilities

Pre-Expedition

- Attend all relevant training events (either online or in-person residentials) in the UK prior to the expedition including Technical Competency training. UK Training requirements are specific to each expedition and may include 3-4 training weekends and/or a training week. All training events are mandatory.
- Ensure the creation of an inclusive and supportive environment that welcomes all young people regardless of their background.
- Support personal development and group cohesion through the delivery of icebreakers, games and activities, reflections and reviews.
- Take lead responsibility for the pastoral care of the group, including provisions for additional support needs which may include SEND, emotional or behavioural challenges.
- Assist in the development and delivery of training on specific additional support need for the other members of your leadership team.

On Expedition

- All responsibilities pertaining to the safety, wellbeing and development of your Fire in the field are shared with the other Fire Leaders
- Regard it as a priority to ensure the safety of each and every member of the expedition programme at all times

- Carry out the planned adventurous and knowledge activities, facilitating learning opportunities for all Young Explorers in your group.
- Facilitate one-to-one and team reflections and reviews with the Young Explorers in your group, to support individual goal setting and personal development
- Inspire participants to engage fully in activities to support the aims and purpose of British Exploring Society and the expedition.
- Provide behaviour management, pastoral care and support for Young Explorers within your group.
- Additionally, you will also take lead on activities that pertain directly to your expertise as a Social Leader;
- Assume responsibility of provision of pastoral care for participants in your group, providing tailored support to young people with additional support needs
- Take lead responsibility for the implementation of personal development activities in your group, including British Exploring Society's 'My Compass' tool and the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale, supporting other Leaders to deliver these where necessary.

Post Expedition

- To produce an overview report for the activities you have been responsible for.
- Contribute to the overall post expedition report (PXR) and expedition feedback as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or Chief Leader.
- Where relevant, assist in providing follow-up information and support for partners and key workers
- Attend the expedition debrief event & presentation. This is usually a single day event held in London approximately 2 months after your return from expedition.

Person Specification

*LP = Leader Profile

AD = Assessment Day

I = Interview

Essential Skills	Assessment*
Experience of supporting young people in residential environments	LP, AD, I
An interest in youth development and significant experience of working with disadvantaged groups or young people facing challenges. ¹	LP, AD, I

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.

Experience of designing and delivering activities, workshops and informal learning to young people	LP, AD
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
Experience of working with young people on both a one-to-one and group basis.	LP, AD, I
Experience of managing groups in outdoor or remote/harsh environments	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 <i>(Provided free of charge by British Exploring Society if required)</i>	LP

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 communicator 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.