Role Description – Trainee Leader Mentor

Overview

British Exploring Society’s Trainee Leader Programme is a selective leadership development course for the next generation of expedition Leaders, looking to level up their experience and lead in a challenging environment. You can find out more about the programme here.

As Trainee Leader Mentor, you will be responsible for mentoring and assisting the development of a group of Trainee Leaders who are undertaking the programme. The Trainee Leader Mentor will be involved in all aspects of the Trainee Leader Programme prior to the expedition and will support Trainee Leaders throughout their training and development, expedition and debriefing events.

Responsibilities

Pre-Expedition

- Attend all relevant training residential s in the UK prior to the expedition, including participating in the Trainee Leader training events in the UK. All training events are considered mandatory
- Contribute to planning, Risk 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
- Plan the Trainee Leaders’ expedition activities in liaison with the Chief Leader and wider expedition team

On Expedition

- To inspire our Young Explorers and Trainee Leaders and engage fully in activities to support the educational aims and purpose of British Exploring Society and expedition
- To train the Trainee Leaders in the methods necessary to live and operate in the environment
- Carry out the planned developmental activities, offer coaching and mentoring, as well as helping to facilitate any adventurous activities
- To manage a feedback and review process with the Trainee Leaders in the group, following the structure provided by British Exploring Society
- Work with the Trainee Leaders, to give them responsibility as appropriate, oversee their actions and provide learning opportunities
- Be an active member of the expedition Leader team and undertake additional duties and responsibilities directed by the Chief Leader and senior Leader team
Post Expedition

- Attend the Trainee Leader Assessment Weekend
- 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 approximately 2 months after your return from expedition

Person Specification

Essential

- An interest in youth development and experience of working with young people, relevant to the expedition client group*
- High levels of integrity and sound judgement
- A strong and flexible team player
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire others
- The ability to deal with conflict and overcome challenges
- Significant personal expedition and travel experience
- Personal expedition experience, particularly in a leadership role
- Experience of mentoring, coaching and leadership development
- An enthusiasm for expeditions, adventure and fieldwork, and the ability to convey this to our Trainee Leaders
- Recognised 16-hour adventure/wilderness First Aid Qualification. (provided free of charge by British Exploring Society)

*client groups vary between expeditions and may include young people with special educational needs, low aspirations, emotional and behavioral difficulties of specific developmental or support needs. Please see the relevant expedition pages for more details.

Desirable

- Relevant professional training or qualifications in leadership development and expedition leadership
- Outdoor leadership qualifications and/or training
- Adventurous/outdoor activity experience or qualifications
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.