

Hands-on History: Object Demonstrator Volunteer

Location:

Weston Park Museum, Western Bank, S10 2TP

Purpose of the role:

A popular activity with both volunteers and visitors, our 'Hands-on History' demonstration trolleys within the Museum's galleries allow people to interact with replica and real objects from the museum collections.

Training and support will be given to all volunteers taking up this role.

The role includes:

- Object handling and visitor engagement training
- Reading notes and extra information about the objects you will be interacting with
- Collecting the materials on a wheeled trolley and transporting to relevant gallery (help can be given from Museums staff if you have mobility problems)
- Choosing and laying out objects on the trolley surface
- Having conversations with visitors, families, school groups about the objects and letting them handle the objects

The benefits to you:

- Spending time within the rich and diverse galleries and spaces at Weston Park Museum alongside other volunteers and staff
- Meeting like-minded people and becoming a member of an enthusiastic and knowledgeable team
- Learn more about and help directly support Museums Sheffield's charitable work
- Develop communication, visitor engagement and interaction skills – support and training will be given as part of the induction to the role
- Opportunity to help out with other events and activities at the Museum
- You can claim back out-of-pocket transport expenses up to a max £5 (round trip) for public transport, or 45p per mile.

Skills and abilities we are looking for:

- No experience necessary – full training will be given
- A love of social history/natural history/art and Museums generally is a bonus!
- Enjoy communicating with our visitors in a relaxed and informal way
- Friendly manner
- Reliable and trustworthy

When can I volunteer?

Handling Table sessions take place each day throughout the week, including weekends, with slots between 11:00am – 1:00pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm (although times can be flexible) Each session requires a small amount of time before and after the given time slots to set up and clear away the objects, and return the handling trolley to its storage location at the Museum. Once you have been trained, you can sign-up to come whenever suits you!

Contact us to express your interest in this role at volunteering@museums-sheffield.org.uk