

Talking Tables Volunteer Role

Purpose of the role:

Our Talking Tables are a fantastic way for our visitors to get hands-on with our collections and to share their stories about what they see. These interactions can often be the highlight of a visit. All our volunteers who work with the Talking Tables are enthusiastic, proactive and happy to talk to anyone and everyone from large parties of school children to tourists to older people and everyone in between. Knowledge of the objects isn't essential but the ability to really listen and be genuinely interested in what people tell you is.

Where will you be volunteering?

You will be based at Weston Park Museum.

What will you be doing?

- Provide hands-on object handling opportunities at our "Talking Tables"
- Opening and sustaining conversations with a wide variety of visitors
- Enriching visitor experience
- Please note that this role requires an enhanced DBS and barred lists check. By registering your interest you are consenting to undergo this check. The DBS check is free for volunteers.

What's in it for me?

- Developing your communication, customer service and organisational skills
- Spending time in the diverse exhibition spaces at Weston Park Museum
- Meeting like-minded people and being a member of an enthusiastic and knowledgeable team
- Learning more about and helping to directly support Museums Sheffield's charitable work
- Access to a range of social and networking opportunities with other volunteers and staff
- Training and support will be given to all volunteers taking up this role
- You can claim back out-of-pocket transport expenses up to a max of £5 for public transport, or 45p per mile if driving a car, per day

What skills will I need?

- Ability to communicate, including actively listening, face-to-face in an effective and friendly manner.
- Proactive, approachable and enthusiastic attitude
- Enjoy communicating with our visitors in a relaxed and informal way
- Reliable and trustworthy

When can I volunteer?

Following an initial training session we need to be confident that you are the right person for this role and if we think you are suitable we will ask you to sign up to volunteer at a time that suits you. There are slots available every day of the week both in the morning and in the afternoon.

We will hold a training session once we have enough people interested so please register your interest by sending us an email at volunteering@museums-sheffield.org.uk. Please email us 150 - 200 words about why you would be right for this exciting opportunity.