

General overview of role:

Nepacs provides play area facilities within all of our visitors centres and within prison visits halls during domestic visits. Nepacs primary concern in these projects is for the welfare of the child and in particular the need of the child for good quality contact with his or her imprisoned parent or relative.

Volunteers in this role will offer support and a warm welcome to all children who are visiting their parent/family member. The role is available in the Visitors Centres based outside of the prison, and within the prison in the prison visits hall. Volunteers can choose to limit their support to the Visitors Centre if they do not wish to enter the prison.

Role description:

Main tasks will include:

- To work as a member of a team and to welcome children
- To set out toys, resources and equipment for the children before the visit starts
- To ensure all toys are clean, to check for damaged toys and record in diary before returning them to visitors centre so they can then be disposed of
- to support and encourage the children to join in play and activities
- to work to the NEPACS safeguarding policy and have the safeguarding of children in mind at all times
- To tidy and clean up, collect toys and return to correct boxes and lock away in the appropriate cupboards
- To fill in our daily diary of numbers of children using our resources

Skills required:

- A passion for supporting children
- Patient
- Friendly
- Confident at interacting with children

Location:

HMP Durham, HMP Frankland and HMP&YOI Low Newton in Durham, HMP Holme House in Stockton, HMYOI Deerbolt in Barnard Castle and HMP Northumberland in Morpeth.

Expenses:

Public transport costs or mileage up to 22 mile radius at 40p per mile.

Training and support:

- Initial project induction and training
- Level 1 Safeguarding training available
- Invite to Nepacs Generic induction
- Volunteer meetings are held at regular intervals throughout the year
- NEPACS offer a training day for all volunteers annually
- Volunteers are eligible to attend some prison organised training

Commitment

NEPACS asks volunteers

- To commit to the project and its purpose and give notice of absence as soon as possible
- To undertake an induction programme
- To agree to a DBS check and prison clearance (this will require a form of photo ID)

Volunteers can expect

- Support from staff
- Training opportunities
- Invitation to volunteer meetings
- Recognition of their work

To apply:

Please download an application form from our Volunteer Opportunities page of our website or contact: volunteering@nepacs.co.uk , or ring us on 0191 375 7278.