**Newport Mind**

**Volunteer Role Description**

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| **TITLE:** | EBSA Parent Volunteer |
| **RESPONSIBLE TO:** | EBSA Project Lead |
| **HOURS:** | To be negotiated depending on availability. Minimum 8 hours a month. |
| **CONTRACT:** | Until volunteer withdraws or project closes |
| **LOCATION:** | Home-based, with travel throughout Newport |

**Purpose of the role**

We’re Newport Mind, the mental health charity. We won’t give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem gets support and respect. We provide advice and support to empower anybody experiencing a mental health problem and we campaign to improve services, raise awareness, and promote understanding.

Newport Mind is one of 20 Local Minds in Wales, working in partnership with National Mind and Mind Cymru, whilst remaining an independent local charity. In the EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoidance) project, Newport Mind works with the Educational Psychology Team at Newport City Council, to deliver training to schools and support to young people and their families.

This role will involve designing and delivering peer-support groups for parents and caregivers of a child who experiences emotionally based school avoidance in Newport. This can be a lonely and challenging time for families, and support networks make a real difference.

Newport Mind aims to ensure that the needs and interests of people with mental health problems, people with disabilities, women, men, black and minority ethnic communities, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender and people of all ages are reflected in all its activities. You will be supported to develop inclusive ways of working with communities when designing peer-support groups.

**Aims of the role**

1. To develop and deliver an inclusive plan for peer-support groups across Newport
2. To develop a 1:1 support and consultation service
3. To gather evidence as to additional support needed by parents and caregivers

**Qualities we are looking for**

This gives an outline of the type of person and the characteristics required to enjoy the role. Each point should be briefly addressed in your application form.

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| **Experience** | |
| 1. Direct or indirect experience of mental health problems or EBSA. |  |
| **Skills/Abilities** | |
| 1. Able to nurture and maintain strong relationships. 2. Good verbal communication skills in any language. 3. Emotional resilience when working with people in challenging and complex situations. 4. Reliable time management. |  |
| **Equality and Diversity** | |
| 1. A commitment to equality of opportunity and a positive approach to diversity. |  |
| **Other** **Requirements** | |
| 1. A commitment to learn about peer support and engaging with parents and caregivers in the local community. 2. A commitment to the ethos and values of Mind and Newport Mind. |  |

We will consider any reasonable adjustments under the terms of the Equalities and Human Rights Act, to enable an applicant with a disability (as defined under the Act) to meet the requirements of the role and to attend an informal interview.

The volunteer will ensure that Newport Mind's policies are reflected in all aspects of their work, in particular those relating to;

1. Child Protection and the Protection of Vulnerable Adults
2. Equalities and Human Rights
3. Health and Safety
4. Data Protection.

**Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)**

Because of the nature of this role, it will be necessary for the appropriate level of criminal record disclosure to be undertaken. Therefore, it is essential in making your application you disclose whether you have any pending charges, convictions, bind-overs or cautions and, if so, for which offences. This post will be exempt from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders 1974 (Exemptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Therefore, applicants are not entitled to withhold information about convictions which for other purposes are ‘spent’ under the provision of the Act, and, in the event of employment being taken up; any failure to disclose such convictions will result in dismissal or disciplinary action. The fact that a pending charge, conviction, bind-over or caution has been recorded against you will not necessarily debar you from consideration for this appointment.