

Guide Dogs Careers

Thank you for inviting us into your setting - we hope you have a fun learning experience with us! Please take the time to read this through before we visit alongside our risk assessment guidance. If you have any questions, please get in touch with the volunteer who is delivering your experience or email learning@guidedogs.org.uk.

Overview of the experience

This 1-hour experience will introduce the wide range of careers and volunteering opportunities available within organisations in the charity sector, using Guide Dogs as an example. We will show essential skills and qualifications for each role and discuss routes to these careers. The experience will also link into social action opportunities that all people can take when being an active citizen in their own community.

- Introduction with video (15 mins). This will cover the variety of roles in our charity, including qualifications and personal attributes needed. We'll also discuss hints and tips for the application process and different volunteering roles.
- Students to choose one or more of the three tasks available that give a flavour of the three roles in Guide Dogs we have highlighted (40 mins).
 - Video Producer = utilise the resources to produce campaign material for our current campaign of 'Don't Dive on the Dog'.
 - Habilitation Specialist = design a programme to enable a young person in the case study to achieve their everyday goal.
 - Guide Dog Trainer = dog training myth buster challenge and task using an example of a training plan, create a programme to teach a guide dog in training a specific skill.
- Close of session with review (5 mins).

Resources and set-up

We will provide all resources for this experience other than those everyday items requested below.

Please can we ask for:

- A screen and internet access to show the videos.
- Pens and paper.
- iPads or other tablets/laptops to access resources on our website to complete the tasks.

In advance of the experience, alongside this document and risk assessment guidance, we will have sent through to you the video and an optional parent information letter.



A few points to help things run smoothly...

- Please ensure there is shared understanding with yourself and our volunteer of the arrival procedure, timings, room set-up required, plus resources you can provide and those needed to be brought by the volunteer.
- Our volunteers will lead the content of the experience but will not be responsible for class management or organisation and should not be left in charge of any group or class. We politely request for children to show age-appropriate sensible behaviour throughout the experience.
- Please share any accessibility requirements or behavioural issues of pupils you feel the volunteer needs to know to lead the experience effectively.
- Some of our volunteers are guide dog owners and/or have sight loss. They will discuss with you any specific requirements before their visit but please ensure that routes to the site are accessible and that you take the lead in Q&A sessions as our volunteer may not see hands raised. Please use your own actions to demonstrate to students how to best support a person with sight loss - not distracting a guide dog, how to start a conversation to ask if they need assistance...if you're not sure, feel free to ask us!
- We won't be using our own mobile phones in your classroom, but we encourage all schools to take photos using their own systems and share on social media, tagging **@GuideDogs** in so we can share further and let everyone know what a wonderful group you are!

Risk assessment

Please now read through our accompanying risk assessment guidance: this may help if you wish to fill out your own organisation's risk assessment. As the organiser of an activity, you're responsible for keeping everyone who's involved as safe as possible. We encourage you to discuss your risk assessment and school tablet/computer policy when in conversation with our volunteer prior to the experience. We also expect as a condition of booking that you have public liability insurance in place and may ask to see evidence of this.

Thank you for letting us share our learning experience with you!

End of document.

