

Comics Club Volunteer

Main purpose

To support and plan a group for young adults, with focus on developing social, reading, drawing and creativity skills.

What would I be doing?

Helping promote, plan and run weekly or fortnightly sessions for a Comics club with secondary school young adults.

The sessions could be:

- Reading and discussing comics and graphic novels
- Encouraging young adults to talk about the colours, characters, backgrounds, stories, layouts, dialogue, themes, genre etc.
- Exploring drawing and storytelling techniques, design, speech, character development, costume, mood, setting, clarity of communication
- Drawing and writing their own comics, or doing practical comic-making exercises eg. activity sheets, art/craft sessions, collages, 'comics jam', designing a character, zine making, etc.
- Exploring the history of comics , eg through comparing texts or researching
- Collaborate with other groups in other libraries, eg sharing an online space, exhibition , workshop, competition

Your responsibilities will include:

- Planning and facilitating regular sessions by preparing topics, materials and activities
- Participating in the promotion of the club
- Ensuring all the young adults get a chance to express their opinions, and grow in enthusiasm and confidence
- Inspiring young adults to read different types of comics/graphic novels
- Encouraging analytical and creative thinking
- Explaining new vocabulary and literary and graphic techniques

When can I do my volunteering?

These sessions can be run weekly or fortnightly and are usually 1 hour long. You will need to be there 10 minutes before and after to welcome and say goodbye to young adults.



This role also requires approximately half an hour preparation time prior to each session.

Where will I be volunteering?

It may be your local library or another library of your choice if the opportunities are not available locally.

Who will be there with me?

Library staff will be on hand and usually other volunteers.

Please note that this role requires a DBS check. We also require volunteers to complete the online Safeguarding Children training on Bristol City Council's Learning Platform.

Support and review

Regular support and guidance will be given by a named library contact. There will be a 4 week trial period to ensure that all is going well – another volunteer opportunity may be suggested if the trial period has shown that this would be better for both parties.

Training, resources and information

A full induction will be given, and further training offered where appropriate.

Libraries will provide a brief guide to teaching and classroom management tips.

Resources: LibrariesWest can offer a wide range of comics and graphic novels. We will be providing craft materials and photocopying. Access to computers with internet and use of headphones.

Am I right for this opportunity?

This opportunity would suit someone who:

- Is creative and has a passion for engaging young people
- Has or would like to gain experience communicating with young people
- Is organised and can commit for at least a term (6 or 12 sessions)
- Is passionate about comics and drawing
- Is passionate about reading and libraries

What will I get from volunteering?

Some of the benefits are:

- Gain experience of planning, delivering, promoting a club



- Gain experience of working with young people in a teaching environment; sharing with and learning from the next generation – useful for those considering a teaching career
- Gain experience of drawing and storytelling techniques , as well as exhibitions , workshops, competitions
- Gain knowledge of reading ages and interests
- Opportunity to increase self confidence
- Socialising with other volunteers and staff
- Gaining experience for CVs and job applications
- Have fun spreading your passion for comics!

