

ESOL conversation class - Volunteer Role Description

Role Title	ESOL Conversation Volunteer
Minimum Time Commitment	∉ Fridays 09.30am – 11:00am∉ 3 months minimum commitment
Location	The Renewal Programme, 395 High Street North, E12 6PG
About Us	The Renewal Programme is a dynamic community-based charity, with 50 years' experience, empowering those in need to transform their lives, for a stronger community. The Renewal Programme strives to ensure that access to English learning is available, free of charge, to anybody who would like to learn. Our Education Department runs a broad range of ESOL classes from Absolute Beginners to Level 2. Our tutors have an excellent reputation for providing quality teaching to those in our community. We're looking for volunteers to join our conversation sessions. You will help our learners improve their English speaking and listening skills in a more informal environment. You will need good spoken English and plenty of enthusiasm. This role may be suitable for those who have acquired an ESOL teaching qualification and are looking to gain more experience in the sector. With your help, we can build the confidence of local people who do not have English as a first language enabling them to gain more independence in their lives, move on to a formal ESOL qualification or just to have the chance to meet and socialise with other people. We'll support and train you to help people at our centre, giving you a chance to develop your own confidence and skills too.

About the Role

Sessions

In these sessions you'll help people:

- Practise speaking English in a relaxed and informal setting
- Talk about subjects that matter to them, and their lives
- Gain skills that will help towards independence
- Reinforce skills that they may have been learning in the classroom
- Meet new people and make new friends.

Skills & Experience

Personal qualities most suited to the role:

- Be a native or near native English speaker (Level 1 or above)
- An interest in supporting people to achieve their learning goals.
- Reliable and good timekeeper
- Be an excellent listener, empathetic, enthusiastic, patient and approachable.
- Flexible approach
- To be able to recognise and work within personal and organisational boundaries.
- Communicate well with diverse groups of people (ability to speak other languages is a bonus!)
- Willingness to work without direct supervision.

Desirable criteria:

- Experience working with migrant communities
- TEFL or CELTA qualified
- TEFL or CELTA student

Positive Impact

There is great reward in helping people from diverse backgrounds to gain confidence in speaking English. Our learners come from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds with varying life experiences and different reasons for wanting to improve their spoken English. Many of our service users are dependent on others in their family or community to carry out day-to-day tasks or are worried about being in a formal classroom setting. Conversation classes help in building the learners' confidence to become independent, and in many cases, to move on to formal English learning or work.

Benefits, Training and Support

- The opportunity to develop new skills and gain work experience to add to your CV.
- Free DBS certification.
- To be a part of a team who are making a positive change within the local community.

	 The satisfaction of contributing to building the English language skills of our learners. Free online courses, resources and support for you. What will The Renewal Programme provide? Support, advice and guidance, from the Volunteer Coordinator. We will pay any agreed out of pocket expenses.
Essential	Native or near native speaker
Pathways to become a volunteer	 Complete the application form References Basic DBS Check Attend an Induction Session at The Renewal Programme
Report to:	ESOL teacher/Volunteer Project Manager