

Events Volunteer

What is Grimm & Co?

Grimm & Co is a Rotherham-based children's literacy charity that hosts free writing workshops for young people aged 7-18 years old. We host sessions both on site at our premises in the heart of Rotherham, but we also take our workshops on the road for residencies in schools and also for events and festivals. Every year we have approximately 105 active volunteers helping the charity with workshops and events, but we need to grow our events team because we begin more outreach work in our community. In summer we are often asked to attend festivals across South Yorkshire bringing a larger group of Grimm & Co volunteers together to help raise awareness and engagement with Grimm & Co. All of our volunteers are passionate about championing the writer in every child.

Objectives:

Whilst this role may seem at first a step removed from our face-to-face delivery with children and young people, it is vital we have the support required to create the immersive spaces for our young people where they can feel safe and imaginative. This means building and assembling structures from scratch each time we pop-up, such as in a school or at an outdoor festival.

The expectation is that if an event volunteer signs up to assist with a build or set up, then they will turn up on time and be ready to help, this is to ensure the safety of the whole team with enough numbers to safely assemble or de-rig.

Full training will be provided in key areas such as manual handling, understanding risk assessments and health and safety. We welcome all applicants for this role, however due to the physical nature of the tasks, volunteers must feel fit and well to apply and carry out this role for their own safety.

You will be representing Grimm & Co out in the community; this means adhering to all Grimm & Co procedures and policies and being the face of our charity to those we work with off-site.

An Events Volunteer is always welcome to request to stay for the duration of the event (if applicable) if they wish.



What will I be doing?

You may be asked to:

- Help pack and load our van/trailer with our theatre sets, pop-up tents and props and stock to and from off-site events and locations
- Learn how to build and de-rig our theatres and other temporary structures such as tents.
- Lift bulky or heavy objects in line with manual handling procedures
- Volunteer and be available over weekends and evenings, with chances of early starts as well
- Make own way to events or off-site locations, not just to Grimm & Co in Rotherham (travel expenses will be paid for)
- Able to stand for long periods of time, potentially in adverse weather
- Use tools or drills for set building
- Undertake any training relevant to health and safety and manual handling and be able to follow instructions and guidance.

What skills, experience and attributes do I need?

Along with having great communication and interpersonal skills, we ask that you:

- Are dedicated and reliable to help out with any off-site set up
- Are efficient, a quick learner and take pride in a methodical approach.
- Have an eye for detail to help assist the creative learning team in dressing the spaces ready for workshops with young people
- Have a can-do attitude even for repetitive and physical manual handling tasks
- Are organised and neat and able to learn the layout of the storage spaces

If you have specific skills or experience, please let us know when you apply.

We are especially interested in volunteers who have a clean UK drivers' license, may be willing to drive a Luton box van, have their own vehicle and have experience in towing/ have their own towbar.

How much time will I be expected to give?

We have a rota that runs over a 5-day week and we generally work each day from 9am until 6pm. This will change at peak times for festivals or school residency pop-ups to include earlier mornings and later evenings and will include weekend shifts on both Saturday and Sunday.

We ask that you are available at least one shift per month to stay on our current volunteer list.

Things you need to know

We will provide you with any relevant training and equipment you may need, and we ask that you arrive for your shifts around ten minutes early to be briefed. All volunteers will need a DBS check done with us before they are ready to start volunteering at Grimm & Co.

What's next?

If you like the sound of being an events volunteer please complete our volunteer application form or email volunteer@grimmandco.co.uk for more information.