

VOLUNTEER ROLE PROFILE



ROLE TITLE:	Peer Mentor
LOCATION:	Northwest of England
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Peer Mentor Leads
HOURS OF WORK:	Flexible, to suit the candidate



About the role

The peer mentoring service was set up to give adopters and prospective adopters an opportunity to talk to people who have lived experience of adoption. Mentors are there to give support, sharing of experience and encouragement to prospective adopters as they move through the adoption process from assessment through to placement and beyond. They also support existing adopters and their families through emotionally challenging periods. They can offer them a safe space to offload without fear of judgement or fear of not being understood.

What you will be doing

Arrange and hold mentoring sessions with people who are referred to the service.

As a peer mentor you would be expected to –

- Use Microsoft teams.
- Report to peer mentor leads.
- Use Adoption UK email address and respond to email contact promptly.
- Be responsible for keeping in touch with the families allocated to you and to inform the mentor managers if the families don't engage.
- Take only as many referrals as you can manage and arrange calls at a time that is convenient for you and your mentee.
- Attend regular supervisions on Teams.
- Complete a mentor contact form after each session with a family.
- Complete online IHASCO training.
- Attend online mentor information sessions.
- Ensure compliance with appropriate Adoption UK policies and procedures.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times.
- Contact mentor leads to discuss any safeguarding concerns.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The Skills and Experience you need

Mentors will bring their own adopter experience to the role and offer support and encouragement to adopters as they move through the adoption journey. As well as being adopters themselves they have a range of experiences and skills, such as: -

- Interpersonal skills – able to listen and empathise and build relationships.
- Knowledge of the adoption process
- Signpost families to key sources of advice and information.
- Knowledge of common adoption challenges - regardless of personal experience, be able to talk about challenges and empathise with families.
- People referred into the service may come from a wide variety of backgrounds with a range of experience and perspectives and so peer mentors must respect any differences, diversity and values.

Benefits of volunteering with Adoption UK

- Meet new people and be part of supporting adoptive families to thrive.
- Free membership to Adoption UK and access to relevant training and development opportunities.
- Use and develop your communication, organisational and people skills
- Receive training and the support you need to carry out the role.
- Receive additional training which might also help your own family.

Timetable:

- Closing date 30st October 2026
- Shortlisting date 3rd November 2026
- Interview dates Monday 9th November, Tuesday 10th November
Wednesday 11th November

Queries:

Would you like to know more about the role or application process? Please email sarah.evangelou@adoptionuk.org.uk or caroline.barker@adoptionuk.org.uk.

Learn more about volunteering with us:

<https://www.adoptionuk.org/volunteering>

Key Information:

Safeguarding role requirements: DBS, right to work and references.

*(These checks and all required costs will be covered by Adoption UK and the application process completed alongside you when you are onboarded as a volunteer)

You will receive mandatory safeguarding training.