

Volunteering with hoot

If you're excited to try out new art forms, curious about different ways of being creative, and want to help others to do the same then volunteering with **hoot** as a Group Support Volunteer might be the perfect fit for you.

- You do not need lots of creative experience to volunteer, enthusiasm and a desire to learn is just as important.
- Some experience of mental ill health, neurodiversity and/or learning disabilities would be useful for this role but it is not essential.
- You'll need to be comfortable in a group setting and be able to follow written and verbal instructions.
- You will need to be friendly, respectful, and sensitive to the needs of others.
- You will need either a device to send and receive texts and/or an email address that you check regularly to stay in touch with **hoot**.

Volunteering with **hoot** gives you:

- An induction and relevant training.
- Experience of working collaboratively with others.
- An insight into group dynamics and running group activities.
- Experience of creating work for exhibition and/or performance.
- Space to try out a range of artistic techniques.
- A Kirklees Volunteer Profile to record your skills and experiences.
- Opportunities to volunteer at other **hoot** events.

hoot will also reimburse your 'out of pocket' expenses like travel costs to and from activities and meetings with the volunteer coordinator.

About hoot

hoot creative arts is an arts and mental health charity that runs creative activities to help people to look after their mental health and wellbeing. Being creative makes us feel good, and it's proven that taking part in something creative helps to tackle feelings of stress, anxiety, and depression.

By volunteering with **hoot**, you will be helping us to combat loneliness, help people to build self confidence and challenge the stigma around mental health.

hoot has been awarded the Kirklees Volunteering Quality Award for a providing high quality volunteering experience.



Role summary



Group Support Volunteers attend our weekly groups and support the **hoot** team. This might include:

- Welcoming people to the session.
- Helping to set up the room and tidy up afterwards.
- Making drinks for participants.
- Taking part in the activity (singing, music making, creating art).
- Offering creative ideas and suggestions during the group.
- Getting ready to help the group record, perform and showcase work at an exhibition.
- Keeping an eye out for anyone who looks unsure or uncomfortable.



Group Support Volunteer roles are available at

Singing
Thursdays, 10:30am – 12:30pm
hoot creative arts, Milford Street, Huddersfield HD1 3DX

Groups run throughout the year with breaks similar to a school term. An Enhanced DBS check is required to volunteer and **hoot** will arrange this for volunteers who are offered a role.

We want to support people to volunteer in a way that works for them. If you have any questions about the role and tasks please contact Holly, Volunteer Co-ordinator: holly@hootcreativearts.co.uk or call 01484 516224.

How to apply

To apply, complete **hoot**'s online volunteering form <https://hootcreativearts.co.uk/support-hoot>



At **hoot creative arts**, we believe that the arts are for everyone and it's important to us that our volunteering opportunities are open to a diverse range of people. [Read about our commitment to Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in the Arts on our website.](#)

We look forward to hearing from you.

Visual Arts sessions

What to expect

Tuesdays 10:30am - 12:30pm in
Huddersfield or
2:00pm - 4:00pm in Dewsbury

Visual Arts groups at **hoot** are led by an experienced community artist and supported by a Creative Support Worker along with a Group Support Volunteer.

The group sit around a table for Visual Arts sessions. The Lead Artist will introduce the theme or inspiration for the group to follow. They will also demonstrate the technique or materials being used. Following this, participants will develop their ideas in pieces to take home if they wish.



Singing sessions

What to expect

Thursdays
10:30am - 12:30pm
Huddersfield, HD1 3DX

Singing groups at **hoot** are led by an experienced community singing leader and supported by a Creative Support Worker along with a Group Support Volunteer.

The group sit or stand in a circle to learn and sing a selection of songs together. The singing leader will teach songs from around the world, sometimes in other languages. Songs are taught by ear and there is no need to read music or sing solo.



Music sessions

What to expect

Thursdays
2pm - 4pm
Huddersfield, HD1 3DX

Music groups at **hoot** are led by an experienced community musician and supported by a Creative Support Worker along with a Group Support Volunteer.

The group often works towards a theme (recently their theme was Motown) and they will share ideas to create original music and songs. You do not need experiencing playing instruments and there is no need to read music. Sometimes the group will focus on particular instruments like djembe or taiko drumming (see image)



The group often record their songs and upload to [hoot's Bandcamp](#).