

Need to Know Info for Group Leaders



What is Campus?

- A Cambridge based, student run children's charity who have been operating for fifty years and counting.
- Campus works with Liverpool Social Services and Barnardo's to identify disadvantaged children aged 6-13 in the Liverpool area. While the children come from a range of backgrounds all are in need of a chance to relax away from the responsibilities and challenges of home. This is what Campus offers; a week long summer holiday where the only emphasis is on fun
- Each year we typically take on over 200 children across our summer projects.
Campus does not try to change the children or their families in any way – our only goal is for them to enjoy themselves.

The Campus Projects – What, When and Where

- Campus runs several Projects throughout the year, including our famous summer **Residential Project**, and **Hippocampus**, a non-residential project for younger children.
- Through the week you'll be based around a central site, Hippocampus in Liverpool and Residential in North Yorkshire for Residential, and take the kids out on activities.
- Each Project runs for **a week between 21st July 2018 and 26th August**. New volunteers do one of these weeks (Sat-Sat) to get their first taste of Campus.
- **Food and accommodation are provided** for the duration of your stay (lovingly prepared by our Domestic staff on Residential, or as a team on Hippocampus)
- During each week we do our very best to provide the kids with the most memorable holiday possible. This involves activities ranging from science museums to adventure playgrounds and beaches.

Your Role as Group Leader

- Most people who volunteer do so as Group Leaders – the people who make Campus “better than Christmas”, as one child put it
- On Residential you will be assigned to a group of 3-5 children, based on age and gender, and on Hippocampus all volunteers work together to look after all of the children. As a group leader your core responsibilities would include:
 - Ensuring that the children are safe at all times and that Child Protection Policies are observed
 - Making sure the children are having fun and entertaining them whilst out on activities
 - Getting the children to bed each night
 - Providing piggy backs/bedtime stories/a human canvas for face painting

A Typical Day on Campus

Residential Project	Hippocampus
Wake up kids for breakfast 8:30(ish)	Pick up kids from around Liverpool
Morning activity	Morning on site - craft, games, baking etc.
Lunch – sandwiches in a park	
Afternoon activity	
Dinner and evening activity	Drop kids off at their homes
Kids to bed 10(ish) and chill out with helpers	Dinner and chill out time with other helpers on site

Who We're Looking For

- There is no magic recipe for what makes a good Group Leader - Many people surprise themselves by the end of the week. We need both volunteers to run around with the most energetic children and others to sit and draw the quieter kids out of their shells. A few key qualities include:
 - Energy, enthusiasm and patience
 - Responsibility to look after a group of lively children.
 - Ability to think on your feet to respond to a wide variety of situations in the safest way possible.
 - Being unafraid to speak out if you see/hear something that concerns you – **Child Protection is one of Campus' greatest responsibilities and is something we take extremely seriously; volunteering for Campus is subject to a clear DBS check.**
- Campus uses minibuses for transport during the week between activity and site. If you're 21 or over and have 2+ years of experience then you are eligible to act as driver. **Without drivers our holidays can't go ahead** - if you are unsure or would like to talk to us before committing contact Jenny, recruitment@campusholidays.org.uk

If You're Apprehensive

- We know it can be daunting - many of Campus' most beloved volunteers started off in exactly the same place as you. Thankfully Campus makes every effort to support new Group Leaders and to prepare them in advance:
 - You will **always** be joined by one Experienced Helper and often a Young Helper (an ex-Campus Kid), so you'll be with someone who's seen it all before
 - Each group is carefully planned and you'll be **told about any pre-existing issues with children we**, along with ways to deal with problems that may arise
 - Senior members of Campus (the Co-ordinators) will also be on site throughout the week to help with any issues, both personal or related to your group.
 - Campus provides a **compulsory training session** where we cover the basic of Child Protection and how to deal with difficult behaviour.

What to do Next

If Campus appeals to you fill in the [application form](#). After this our recruitment officer will get in contact with you to sort out an interview and training, so we can find out a little more about you and your motivations for doing Campus. For more information please contact our Recruitment Officer Jenny on recruitment@campusholidays.org.uk