



We're looking for a child care volunteer at Xenia!

Xenia is a group that brings together women who are learning English and women who speak fluent English to take part in weekly workshops together at the Hackney Museum. We believe everyone has something to learn and everyone has something to share - our aim is to make English language learning as accessible as possible for women, and help create connections between women from different backgrounds.

An important part of making our sessions accessible is that child care is provided as this is one of the reasons why many women aren't accessing English classes.

We are looking to recruit several female volunteers who are interested in helping to look after children during the workshops. Could that be you?

Responsibilities:

- To look after the children at Xenia whilst their mothers take part in English class during Xenia workshops (Saturday mornings, usually 2hrs 10:30-12:30)

Time Commitment:

- We ask that you can commit to coming to approximately 2 workshops per month (but would also be very happy if you can come more often than this).
- If no children are attending the workshop, you will be able to choose to leave after 1 hour (or stay as an English speaking volunteer)
- At the moment, as we ease back into in person sessions after the lockdown, we in person sessions approximately twice a month.

Volunteers must fulfill these requirements:

- Volunteers must have good communication skills, be patient, trustworthy and friendly.
- Experience working with children in a personal or professional capacity (essential)
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to take initiative in creating child-care activities for a range of ages using limited toys/play equipment.

Key things to note about this role:

- This role includes informal child care role where you will be playing, drawing and looking at the museum with the children by yourself or with the parents in the same room
- Children generally range in age from 2 years to 12 years.
- Some children have low levels of English
- Because of the informal nature of the group we do not always know who is going to come along to the workshop. Because of this, we don't always know if we will have children present. As such, we ask that the child care volunteer (or volunteers) come for the 10:30am start of the workshop, but if no children have arrived within the first hour, the volunteer can then choose to either leave the workshop or take part as an adult English speaking volunteer.
- No qualifications are required, but childcare experience is essential
- Volunteers will be asked to complete a DBS check when you start volunteering with Xenia as this role includes independent working with children.

Volunteering during Covid-19

Our sessions are taking place outside and inside. At inside sessions we will encourage mask wearing and ask people to social distance. Hand sanitizer and washing facilities will be available. We will always remind people not to attend if they or their household have had Covid 19 symptoms. In the child care role you will not always be able to social distance- as is common in child care professions (e.g. child minder / nursery nurse). Think about if you are comfortable with this before you start.

A bit more about Xenia

Xenia is a women's group in Hackney that supports women learning English and those able to speak English to come together and learn from each other. Xenia supports people from a wide range of backgrounds (including varying immigration status backgrounds) to practice speaking English. We run weekly workshops in Hackney for women which provide a safe and supportive space to practice English- a key skill to feeling well and at "home" in a country whose language you don't speak. .

Full details and pictures on our website: www.xenia.org.uk

How to apply:

- Please email welcome@xenia.org.uk to express your interest in this role
- We will then arrange to meet you in person for an informal interview.
- You will be asked to give the contact details for two people from whom we will request references
- *Note - upon starting this volunteer role you will be asked to undergo a DBS check as this role includes working independently with children.*