

Role: Youth Engagement Volunteer (YEV) for Gaisce - The President's Award

If you are passionate about inspiring young people, energised by motivating others and have some great Gaisce stories to tell then this may be the volunteer role for you.

In autumn 2016, Gaisce - The President's Award are looking to pilot an exciting, and innovative, volunteer programme with our Awardees. The Youth Engagement Volunteer Programme is a great opportunity for Gaisce Awardees to share their stories, talk about their own personal experiences and inspire young people to take on the Gaisce challenge. This role also allows Awardees to develop their communication skills and to get some invaluable experience in motivational and public speaking. Youth Engagement Volunteers must be over 18 years of age, have completed a Gaisce Award (at any level), be comfortable speaking to large, or small, groups and passionate about the development of young people. As the Gaisce programme is a diverse programme, operating in a variety of organisations across Ireland, we are looking for Youth Engagement Volunteers to reflect this diversity and help encourage young people, from all over Ireland, to take on the Gaisce challenge.

So whether you have a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award under your belt then we'd love to hear from you!

About Gaisce:

Gaisce - The President's Award is a self-development programme for young people which enhances confidence and wellbeing through participation in personal, physical and community challenges. Gaisce is a direct challenge from the President of Ireland to young people aged 15-25 to dream big and realise their potential. Gaisce is non-competitive - participants are encouraged to choose their own activities and goals with the support of a trained, adult President's Award Leader (or PAL). The Gaisce programme is delivered by over 1,500 PALs working and volunteering in a variety of organisations across Ireland. There are three levels of Gaisce - Bronze, Silver and Gold. The more time and energy participants give, the greater their reward. More information at: www.gaisce.ie

Tasks:

- Motivate and encourage young people to participate in the Gaisce programme and to progress throughout the programme.
- Present the Gaisce programme, and tell your personal story, to groups of young people in local schools.
- Use standardised presentation tools and supporting documents to tell the Gaisce story, while drawing on your own personal experiences.
- Collaborate with President Award Leaders (PALs) before, during and after presentations to ensure consistent messaging on the Gaisce programme.

- Be communicative with your designated supervisor and respond to queries.
- Collaborate with and support other Gaisce volunteers within their role.
- Act as a positive, and encouraging, influence on potential participants.
- Ensure that all Gaisce presentations, communications and behaviour with young people, is carried out in line with Gaisce's relevant policies, standards and with the strictest of Child Protection and Data Protection measures in place.

Person suitability:

- Passionate about the personal development of young people. You believe in inspiring them to reach their full potential.
- Motivating and positive attitude. You are encouraging and supportive.
- Excellent communicator. You are comfortable delivering presentations, engaging with a group, answering questions and listening to young people.
- Approachable and able to relate to young people.
- Respectful of cultural differences, personal boundaries and social diversity
- Flexible and adaptable approach to volunteering.

Time Commitment:

Gaisce are piloting this programme for a 6 week period in autumn 2016. As a result, volunteers would need to be available for a full 6 week period between September and October 2016. Gaisce ask for a minimum of 1 volunteer shift per week but we would love it if you could commit to more! Volunteers are asked to commit to the time involved in:

The application stage

- Fill in a Youth Engagement Volunteer application form.
- Gaisce undertakes reference checks.
- Attend one day mandatory training.

The post application stage (once accepted and active as a Youth Engagement Volunteer)

- At least one volunteer shift a week, for up to six weeks.
- Weekly check-ins with the designated supervisor.
- Additional training, networking or learning events, as appropriate and required.

Note: Each Youth Engagement Volunteer presentation lasts approx. 1 hour. However, Youth Engagement Volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of 2.5 hours a week including: presentation and travelling to and from schools. Depending on the location of the school with respect to the Youth Engagement Volunteers base, this travel time may vary.

Locations: Various schools in Dublin, Cork and Galway. Exact locations will be communicated in advance.

Screening, Training & Supports:

- Interested applicants should complete an application form and provide details of 2 referees.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a group interview in Dublin, Cork or Galway where they will be asked to make a short presentation on their Gaisce experience.
- Selected volunteers will be required to attend a full days training in Dublin, Cork or Galway.
- Selected volunteers will have the support of a Programme Development Officer for queries and advice, as well as the PAL in schools they visit.
- Access to various networking opportunities such as PAL Connect.
- Further training opportunities may be provided.

Benefits of being a Youth Engagement Volunteer:

The Gaisce programme is a positive development programme for the young people of Ireland. As a Youth Engagement Volunteer, and an Awardee, you play an invaluable role in promoting Gaisce and helping us to support more young people to take part in this amazing programme. By being a Youth Engagement Volunteer you will get the chance to develop your communication skills and will be volunteering with a diverse group of young people. Gaisce endeavour to cover out of pocket expenses for all Youth Engagement Volunteers, where possible.

How to Apply:

Contact Claire Byrne via cbyrne@gaisce.ie or 01 6707 006 to request an application pack. Complete and return the application form along with a cover letter to Gaisce - The President's Award. All applicants are required to provide details of two referees. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Recruitment is ongoing. Interview and training dates will be confirmed as required.

Note: Gaisce will be shortlisting candidates based on suitability, availability and geographical spread. Scheduling and requirements from schools may affect the selection process.