



'Give it a go' taster sessions

At the University of Chester, we are looking to organise a programme of one-off 'give it a go' taster volunteering activities for students. The aim of these taster sessions is to give students an insight into volunteering with your organisation, increase their confidence to get involved and provide them the opportunity to do something outside their course.

If you have any ideas for sessions, please [fill in this form by Friday 15th August](#).

Please note we will not be able to accommodate every session suggestion, but we will respond to everyone's submissions.

We look forward to seeing your activity suggestions!

Please read the info below for more information about the 'give it a go' sessions.

Types of activities	<p>We are looking for activities that involve teamwork / group interaction, rather than volunteers working separately / in different areas.</p> <p>Sessions are open to students on all courses, so should be something that anyone could get involved in with no prior experience.</p> <p>Activities we have organised in the past include various conservation activities like bat box building, wildlife recording, tree planting, as well as card writing, sorting through donations, decorating a charity shop window. We are hoping to increase the diversity of sessions that we run and are looking for some new ideas and partnerships.</p>
Number of volunteers	<p>The sessions accommodate between 5 and 10ish students, sometimes more depending on demand, activity capacity and time of year.</p>
Length of session	<p>Half days or a full days. Half days / a few hours are more feasible for students.</p>
Days of the week	<p>Usually Tuesday – Friday but we can consider other days. Wednesday afternoons are when all student timetables are free to take part in sport / other activities, but we also offer activities on other days as we want students who take part in sport to still be able to try out volunteering.</p>
Location	<p>Ideally, we are looking for opportunities within walking distance from any of the University sites in Chester, however, if you do have an idea for an activity that is</p>



	outside of Chester and would require transport, please do still get in touch and we can look at options for this.
Promotion/recruitment	<p>The Volunteering Team will be responsible for promoting the session to students and recruiting student volunteers.</p> <p>You are welcome to open the session up and recruit your own volunteers too – you would be responsible for any external volunteer recruitment.</p> <p>Some organisations run bespoke sessions for our students, whereas others have us join sessions they are already running.</p>
Risk assessment	<p>Before the session is confirmed and advertised to students, it will need to be risk assessed and sent to us by 1st September at the latest (for sessions October – December), so we can review and sign it off before including it in our timetable. Sessions after Christmas will have a later deadline to be risk assessed.</p>
Running the activity on the day	<p>On the day, you will be responsible for inducting the volunteers, running the activity, providing any necessary equipment and ensuring volunteers adhere to risk assessments.</p> <p>A member of the Volunteering team usually attends in order to support the students to take part in the activity.</p> <p>You are welcome to incorporate an information session about your organisation and the volunteering opportunities you have available to students.</p>