

Role Description

Inclusion Support (Volunteer)

Reports to: CYP Coordinator

Purpose:

At Back Up, we believe that spinal cord injury shouldn't limit participation in life. This role utilises lived experience to support the inclusion of children and young people with spinal cord injuries across all areas of their lives, including education, healthcare, sport, leisure and community settings. Inclusion Support Volunteers promote awareness, confidence and practical solutions that enable meaningful participation. They help ensure that children and young people are heard, respected and actively involved in decisions about the support and services they receive.

Our Values

- **Embrace Challenge:** View obstacles as growth opportunities.
- **Have Fun:** Joy is integral to our work.
- **Build Inclusive Communities:** Strive for inclusivity in everything we do.
- **Be Ambitious for Each Other:** Support and uplift one another.

Key Tasks

- **Engagement:** Visit children and young people where they are, e.g. in educational settings, sharing lived experience to inspire confidence, model possibility and promote inclusion.
- **Support Meetings:** Assist with accessibility concerns in settings where children and young people are, ensuring their voices are being heard and their access needs and support surrounding their SCI are met and understood.
- **Raise Awareness:** Deliver presentations to foster understanding of spinal cord injury, emphasising the impact when access needs or support is not met.
- **Collaboration:** Work closely with families and professionals to inspire hope and resilience.
- **Encouragement:** Provide support with sensitivity, using lived experience to guide others.
- **Feedback:** Share insights with the Children and Young People's Coordinator.

The Person

- **Empathetic:** Patient and sensitive to others' challenges.
- **rapport Builder:** Establish positive relationships using shared experiences.
- **Strong Communicator:** Excellent interpersonal skills.
- **Approachable:** Friendly and enthusiastic.

Confident in sharing your story with audiences and in smaller groups.

- Respectful: Maintain confidentiality and handle sensitive issues appropriately.

Experience and Knowledge

- Personal Experience: Lived experience of spinal cord injury.
- Familiarity: Understanding of Back Up's services and values.

Time Commitment

- Training: Initial 2-day workshop in-person.
- Visits: Engage with children and young people between 2-8 times a year in person and online.

Support Provided

- Training: refresher 1-day in-person workshop to enhance and develop your skills.
- Expenses: Reimbursement of agreed expenses.
- Guidance: Ongoing support from the Back Up team.
- Community: Optional online drop-in sessions to share experience, learn from others, learn from external speakers and hear service updates. Option to join our closed Facebook group for updates and information.

Other Information

This role is subject to an enhanced DBS check and reference checks, as part of our safer recruitment procedures.