

Volunteers week: assembly/form time

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| <p>Session summary</p> <p>This session will make students aware of the importance of volunteering: for charities/other organisations, people who benefit from the support of volunteers, as well as the volunteers themselves. Students will be encouraged to reflect on how volunteering experience could help them get a job in the future.</p> | <p>Alumni role:</p> <p>This session could be relevant for a range of former students, as they will all have volunteering experience through the alumni network. Former students who work in the charity sector/work with volunteers would be particularly useful to contribute to this session.</p> |
| <p>Learning outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students learn about the importance of volunteering and have the opportunity to thank former student volunteers for their support and commitment Students understand how volunteering experience is very beneficial in helping to get a job | |
| <p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation | |
| <p>Pre-session preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak to the volunteers over the phone and let them know what to expect from the session, as well as finding out what volunteering experience they have and whether it helped them get a job, and/or if they have ever hired anyone because of their volunteering experience Make sure an appropriate room has been allocated | |

| Timings | Section content | Key objective and link to next section |
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| 0-5 | <p>Welcome and introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefly outline objectives as on slide and mention the fact that former students have come to speak to students about their experiences. | <p>Objective: to understand the main objectives of the session.</p> <p>Link: to help us understand why volunteering is so important, we've got some former students to speak to you.</p> |
| 5-10 | <p>Former students: career pathways and volunteering experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former students introduce themselves, say when they left the school and briefly describe their career pathway. Show slide with questions focused on volunteering and either ask the former students yourself or get students to ask the questions. | <p>Objective: to understand who the former students are, learn about their careers and volunteering experience.</p> <p>Link: volunteers week is all about celebrating volunteering and thanking volunteers.</p> |
| 10-15 | <p>Why is volunteering important?</p> | <p>Objective: to understand why so many charities and organisations rely on volunteers.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe the main benefits of volunteering: to the charity/organisation, to the beneficiaries, to the volunteer, and to society. - Explain that volunteers' week is an opportunity to celebrate the commitment these individuals give and say thank you to them. Thank alumni who have attended for volunteering their time. - Ask former students why they think volunteering is so important, and what their motivations are for volunteering (both in general and specifically at their old school). | Link: volunteering is so important for the organisations and people that volunteers support, but it's also really important for the volunteer themselves. |
| 15-20 | How can volunteering help me get a job? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Run through the transferable skills volunteering could give you and explain where volunteering experience could come into a job application – CV, cover letter, interview etc. - Ask former students to give any stories of where having volunteer experience has helped them to get a job/if they have given someone a job because of their volunteering experience. - Ask former students to share one final piece of advice with the students. | Objective: to understand the benefits of volunteering to the individual and how to relate this experience to job applications. |

Comments and adaptations