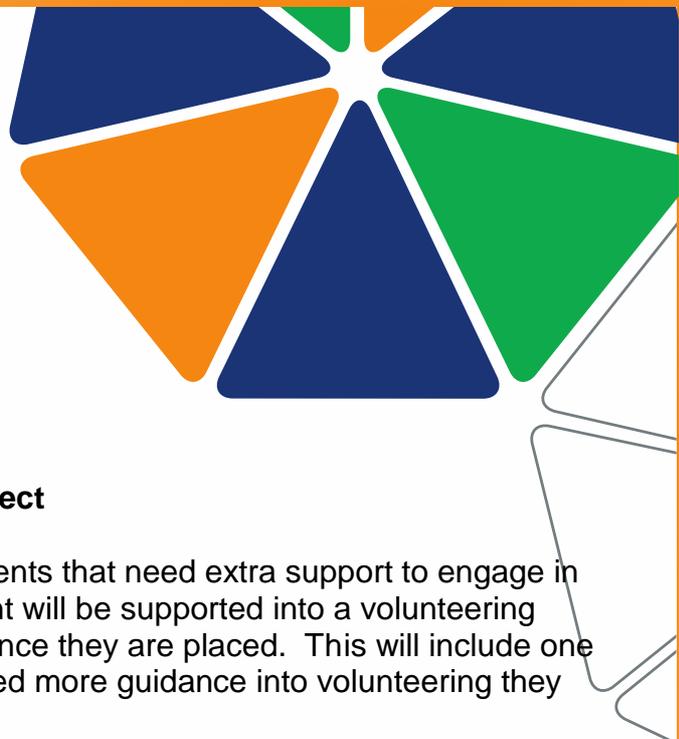




Plymouth Guild

Helping people since 1907



Avenues project

Avenues is a supported volunteering project for all clients that need extra support to engage in volunteering as a progression to employment. A client will be supported into a volunteering opportunity and then have regular support sessions once they are placed. This will include one to one support and group support. For those who need more guidance into volunteering they will receive a one day volunteering training session.

Project outline:

The progression route for each client will start with an appointment with the Avenues advisor who will gauge the route that an individual needs to take to gain a volunteering placement. The two routes are;

1. To broker an appropriate opportunity for the client. This will include communicating with the organisation, where needed accompanying the client to the interview, and to support the client and organisation through the recruitment process.
2. For clients that need extra support we would propose for them to engage in a one day volunteering training course before starting to broker an opportunity.

The objectives for the training course are;

- To examine the benefits of volunteering, particularly for enabling them to progress towards employment.
- To explore different areas of communication; verbal and non-verbal.
- To examine the skills required for presenting themselves e.g. at interviews.
- To explore how the skills used during volunteering can enhance application forms and their CVs.
- To outline key information required for volunteering.

Once a client has attended the course they will then start route 1 above.

Once a client has been placed in a volunteering role Avenues volunteers will support that client for a minimum of 3 months. This would consist of meeting with the volunteer to provide support around their volunteering and working with the organisation to ensure the client is gaining the maximum from their volunteering role. Throughout the year there will also be 2 group support/social events to bring all Avenues volunteers together.

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