

## **Redcliffe Volunteer Programme**

**Live, serve, learn and grow in an international Christian community**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What is Redcliffe College?**

Redcliffe College is an internationally renowned centre for mission training. The aim of the College is to equip the whole person for world mission. Redcliffe is interdenominational and a registered charity. We have over eighty full-time students, plus several families. The College is located in Gloucester, a multicultural city in the west of England.

#### **Why does the College need volunteers?**

Redcliffe College is more than a purely academic institution. It functions on a close-knit, communal level, supporting a diverse, international community from 30 countries, including several families. Redcliffe also hosts numerous conferences and events during the year and caters for a variety of other visitors and guests. All of this requires a dynamic and welcoming support team. Our voluntary workers are an integral part of that team.

#### **What is the Redcliffe Volunteer Programme?**

The Redcliffe Volunteer Programme is designed to combine work, study and experience of cross-cultural living. This reflects the College ethos of developing your character, knowledge and skills. There are currently up to eight voluntary workers here at any time. They are a multinational group, reflecting the international character of the college.

#### **What will being a volunteer at Redcliffe College involve?**

##### *The 'Skills' part*

Volunteers work alongside the Chef Manager, Housekeeper, Maintenance Manager and a number of other permanent staff. Collectively, the team undertakes all aspects of hospitality, conference and facilities provision, helping to ensure that Redcliffe continues to be a warm, friendly and welcoming place. Volunteers work to a rota which includes alternate Saturdays and occasional evenings. They currently work for up to 25 hours per week. Please note that this is voluntary work, not paid employment.

##### *The 'Knowing' part*

All voluntary workers have the opportunity to attend a weekly evening Bible study. During the year there are a series of regular 'life-skills' seminars organised exclusively for this group. Also, subject to demand and work rotas, there is the opportunity to:

- Attend some college lectures
- Receive English tuition
- Establish a Myers-Briggs preference type for each member of the team.

All aspects of "Knowing" are encouraged as together they promote more involvement with the Redcliffe community.

##### *The 'Character' part*

Regular involvement in College worship and student-run social activities is encouraged. Living and working alongside people from all around the world is also a great way to find out more about yourself and build your character.

**What types of people are suited?**

The role of a volunteer at Redcliffe College involves a high degree of interaction with staff and students. Our volunteers need to be capable and conscientious people and good team players. They must have good people skills and the ability to work with people of different backgrounds and nationalities. They also need to be adaptable and willing to undertake unglamorous tasks. Volunteers do not need to be practising Christians but should have a positive attitude towards the work and aims of the College, and a respect for religious beliefs. They must be able to understand and speak English to a reasonable level of proficiency. Volunteers are generally aged 18-30 years, though some are slightly older.

**What else do volunteers receive?**

Single room accommodation is provided in the College for volunteer workers. Cooked meals are also provided during term-times (every day except Sunday). A self-catering food allowance is given (instead of cooked meals) during College breaks. In addition, a small, weekly allowance is given for personal needs. We provide free internet access, conditional to the terms of our web users' agreement. The College does not currently provide English lessons.

**What terms and conditions apply?**

Volunteers normally come to Redcliffe for either six or twelve months. Redcliffe College is not able to pay for visa applications or fund volunteers' travel expenses. It is not possible to be a College student and a volunteer at the same time. Due to visa restrictions, it is not possible for non-EU nationals to undertake another job while serving in the UK as a volunteer and we expect EU nationals who seek other employment to restrict their hours thus worked to an agreed limit. Please note that it can be difficult for people from non-European countries to obtain the required voluntary worker visa. A full list of term and conditions is supplied on application.