

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Position	Sessional Youth Worker
Rate	Day session £150 / 3 night residential £635
Location	Thorneythwaite Farm, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5XQ

Background

Flynn's Barn is a charity supporting young people with cancer, and their families. We offer residential stays in a bunk house style barn situated in the Borrowdale Valley in the Lake District. Our main charitable aim is to bring young people with a shared experience of cancer together to build ongoing friendships and to feel part of a supportive community. Our stays are usually for 3 nights. During a stay we offer a range of outdoor and creative activities. We aim to provide the space for young visitors to relax, find friendship and to build confidence and self-esteem in a safe, supportive context. We provide two different types of stay:

Flynn's Barn Stay: we welcome groups of up to 10 young people aged 18-25yrs with a cancer diagnosis from across the UK. Treatment can be completed or ongoing (medical sign off is required if ongoing). Young people can be referred by a professional or self-refer and need to be fit enough to travel by train to Penrith (North Lakes) where we collect them. Flynn's Barn staff stay in the barn with the group.

Partnership Stay: we partner with organisations supporting young people with cancer to deliver a stay at Flynn's Barn for up to 10 young people. Partner organisation staff recruit, travel and stay in the barn with young people. Flynn's Barn staff stay in the farmhouse or join daily if local.

Overview of the role

We are looking for sessional youth workers to join the team; you will be working alongside and be guided by our Youth Coordinator and senior staff members. Ideally you will be able to join us for a full 4-day, 3-night residential, but we also have roles available for those who can help us for the day.

During your stay we will provide your food and accommodation in the barn or on occasions in the farmhouse. You'll be sharing meals with our young people, and you'll have the opportunity to take part in our outdoor and creative activities.

Core Responsibilities

You will welcome and support a group of 8-10 young people aged between either 13-17yrs or 18-25yrs.

You will be part of the team offering a programme of events for each residential. Some of the activities will be led by local activity providers and others will be facilitated by the Flynn's Barn team. Depending on your skills you may be asked to deliver activities onsite.

Your role will involve ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all group members.

You will help to set up and deliver inviting activities both in the barn and outside: e.g. art materials, games, badminton, bushcraft, walks

You will organise mealtimes in the barn along with the team and guests.

You will help to set up breakfast in the morning, make packed lunches and support the catering side as and when appropriate.

You will be required to help with keeping areas clean, organising and taking care of equipment and tidy and ensuring provisions are topped up where possible.

Personal Qualities/Skills

A friendly, outgoing attitude and a sensitivity to the health challenges of our guests are essential. At Flynnne's Barn we are committed to cultivating a space where our visitors feel valued, safe, included, and relaxed – a place to be themselves.

As part of this role, it is important to be adaptable when supporting young people. This requires an ability to 'read the room'. Sometimes you will be supporting the groups as a whole and at others on a one-to-one basis or in smaller groups. You will help to ensure each day has a steady pace, with time built in to allow for mental and physical rest. These 'chill out' times are key, especially between planned activities and during the evenings. These are often the times when meaningful interactions take place and relationships within the group have a greater chance to develop.

Team Wellbeing

We are a small, friendly and supportive team who pride ourselves in taking care of our staff. We recognise that supporting young people here at Flynnne's Barn can be emotionally challenging. We will come together regularly as a team to review how things are going. Strong, supportive teamwork is central to the ethos at Flynnne's Barn. This in turn ensures that the wellbeing of visitors is at the forefront of what we do.

Responsibilities

- To work collaboratively with the team to deliver successful residential group stays
- To develop positive relationships with young visitors through a range of psychosocial support methods.
- To show an awareness of the individual needs of each young visitor, displaying a sensitivity to their specific medical and psychological situations.
- To maintain the confidentiality of visitors.
- To encourage inclusivity and unity in groups through a supportive climate that fosters positive relationships.
- To accompany, join in and support the group when taking part in both outdoor and indoor activities.
- To maintain general tidiness and order in the barn.
- To help with meal preparation and clearing away.
- To be on call at night if required.
- To be familiar with our Safeguarding Procedure and to report any concerns about the welfare or safety of young people on site to your line manager.

PERSON SPECIFICATION - Sessional Youth Worker

	Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Working with young people	Prior experience of working with young people	✓	
	Able to develop effective working relationships with young people	✓	
	Experience of working with young people facing challenging circumstances	✓	
	Experience working with young people with a serious health condition		✓
	Knowledge of the impact of cancer and treatment programmes		✓
	Experience in the voluntary sector		✓
	Youth work qualification (Level 3 Certificate or Diploma in youth work practice) or equivalent		✓
	Experience of using a range of activities to engage with young people	✓	
	A specific skill set that could be used in a group setting (e.g. arts & crafts, outward bound, or music)		✓
Teamwork	Able to work positively as a team member	✓	
	Confident to take a lead as required	✓	
Communication	Ability to communicate effectively in a professional setting, with young people and team members	✓	
	Ability to communicate effectively using IT systems		✓
Personal qualities	Excellent people skills and the ability to establish strong working relationships	✓	
	A flexible and creative approach to engaging young people and building a nurturing environment	✓	
	Passion for nature and the outdoors	✓	
Safeguarding	Knowledge of safeguarding practices	✓	
	Previous relevant experience and training in child protection and safeguarding vulnerable adults	✓	
Health and safety	Health and safety awareness	✓	
	First Aid Training		✓
Clearances	Enhanced DBS check	✓	
	Provision of references	✓	
Driving	Full Driving License (D1 category)		✓
	Confident driving large minibus		✓

Availability	Available to work unsocial hours (weekends/nights)	✓	
Values	Understanding and commitment to Diversity and Inclusion	✓	
	A commitment to Flynnne's Barn's values and aims	✓	