

Student Volunteering Week, organised by Student Hubs & the National Union of Students (NUS) is an annual celebration of student volunteering across the UK, highlighting the positive impact students have in their communities. Running from 10th to 16th February 2025, this year's campaign encourages students to give back, develop new skills, and connect with others through volunteering.

Whether it's supporting a local charity, mentoring younger students, or contributing to environmental projects, student volunteers play a vital role in shaping a better future.

Why Student Volunteering Matters

Volunteering isn't just about helping others – it's also a chance to develop valuable skills, boost employability, and improve personal wellbeing.

Key Benefits of Volunteering for Students

Enhances Employability - Gain experience, leadership skills, and teamwork abilities.

Builds Confidence – Step outside your comfort zone and take on new challenges.

Supports Mental Wellbeing – Volunteering can reduce stress, improve mood, and create a sense of purpose.

Creates a Positive Impact – Give back to communities and contribute to meaningful causes.

Expands Social Networks – Meet like-minded people and make lasting connections.

Employers increasingly look for real-world experience, and volunteering provides a great way to demonstrate skills like communication, problem-solving, and adaptability.

How to Get Involved in Student Volunteering Week 2025

1. Join a Volunteering Project

Many universities, colleges, and student unions organise volunteering projects during Student Volunteering Week. Look out for:

Community Clean-Ups – Help improve local parks, beaches, and green spaces.

Food Banks & Homeless Shelters – Assist in providing meals and essential supplies.

Environmental Projects – Join tree-planting initiatives or conservation programmes.

Education & Mentoring – Support younger students through tutoring or mentoring schemes.

Fundraising & Charity Events - Help raise money for local causes.

Check with your university's volunteering service or students' union for opportunities available in your area.

2. Find an Ongoing Volunteering Role

If you want to volunteer beyond this week, many organisations welcome student volunteers year-round.

Visit platforms like:

Do It – UK-wide volunteering opportunities.

<u>Vinspired</u> – Volunteering for 14- to 25-year-olds.

NCVO – Resources and support for volunteers.

3. Organise Your Own Volunteering Event

Students can take the lead by setting up their own volunteering projects. Whether it's a litter-picking session, charity fundraiser, or awareness campaign, small actions can make a big difference.

Consider:

- · Partnering with local charities.
- · Creating peer support networks.
- · Running skill-sharing workshops.

Universities often provide funding or resources to help students organise events – check with your student union for support.

4. Share Your Story on Social Media

If you're volunteering during Student Volunteering Week, share your experience to inspire others!

- Use hashtags like #SVW2025 #StudentVolunteeringWeek
- Post pictures and stories about your experience.
- Encourage friends to get involved.

Many organisations highlight student volunteers during this week, so your story might even get featured!

How Universities & Organisations Can Support SVW 2025

Universities, charities, and local organisations can promote and encourage student volunteering by:

- Hosting Talks & Workshops Invite past volunteers to share their experiences.
- Running Volunteer Fairs Connect students with local charities and causes.
- Providing Recognition Celebrate and reward student volunteers for their contributions.
- Offering Training Provide workshops on leadership, teamwork, and community engagement.

If you're an organisation looking for student volunteers, this is a great time to promote your opportunities and reach out to local universities.

Final Thoughts: Get Involved & Make a Difference

Student Volunteering Week is an opportunity for students to give back, learn new skills, and connect with their communities. Whether you can volunteer for a day, a week, or commit long-term, every action counts.

Take the first step today:

Find a volunteering opportunity that matches your interests.

Encourage friends to join you and make volunteering social.

Explore virtual volunteering if you prefer remote roles.

Celebrate your impact and share your experience online.

Volunteering is a powerful way to shape your future while making a difference to those around you. Will you take part in Student Volunteering Week 2025?

Related Links

- Do It
- Vinspired
- NCVO



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