

**Unlocking Potential;
Fulfilling Potential -**

**Volunteering to Support
Personalised Approaches**

 @VOLUNTEERING_UK

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INSPIRING PEOPLE, CHANGING COMMUNITIES

VOLUNTEERING  **MATTERS**

Volunteering Matters

Leading UK volunteering in policy and practice for **52 years**

Vision of a society where everyone can participate to build strong and inclusive communities

Mission: by investing in people through volunteering we can reduce inequalities and isolation to build stronger, more inclusive communities

Our Work

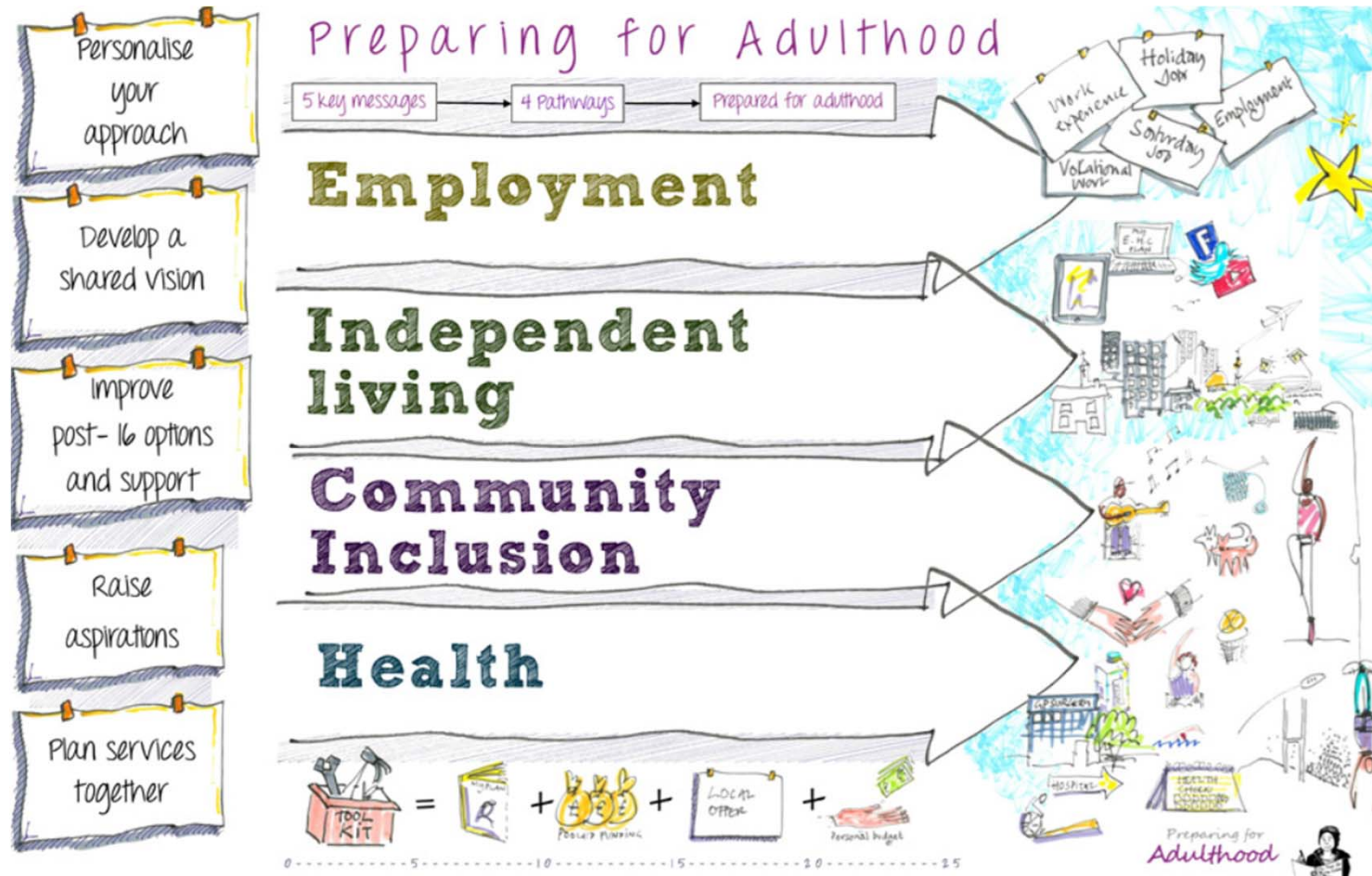
Our work helps to **empower disabled people** to lead independent lives, **offers security and stability to families and children at risk of neglect**, **helps young people find their direction in life** and enables **older people** to share knowledge and experience across generations

- **Grandmentors**
- **Positive Futures**
- **Volunteers Supporting Families**
- **RSVP**
- **Supported Volunteering**

Volunteering and Disabled People

- **NHSE Five Year Forward View**
- **The Care Act**
- **Disability and Health Employment Strategy**
- **Children and Families Act**

Children and Families Act



Volunteering and Disability - What do we know?

- Volunteering improves health and wellbeing
- Volunteering supports better integration
- Volunteering develops skills
- Volunteering helps to cultivate employment aspirations they previously did not have (SCOPE)

BUT - Barriers

Disabled people continue to report barriers:

- 47% of 100,000 disabled people said that their services did not enable them to participate in community life, including volunteering, due to lack of support (“The Other Care Crisis” Leonard Cheshire Disability et al, 2013)
- 25% of disabled people aged 16-34 felt that attitudinal barriers (confidence) stopped them from participating in community activities (Office for Disability Issues, 2008)
- 19% stated that transport and access to venues were barriers to participation (Office for Disability Issues, 2008)

How can WE change this?

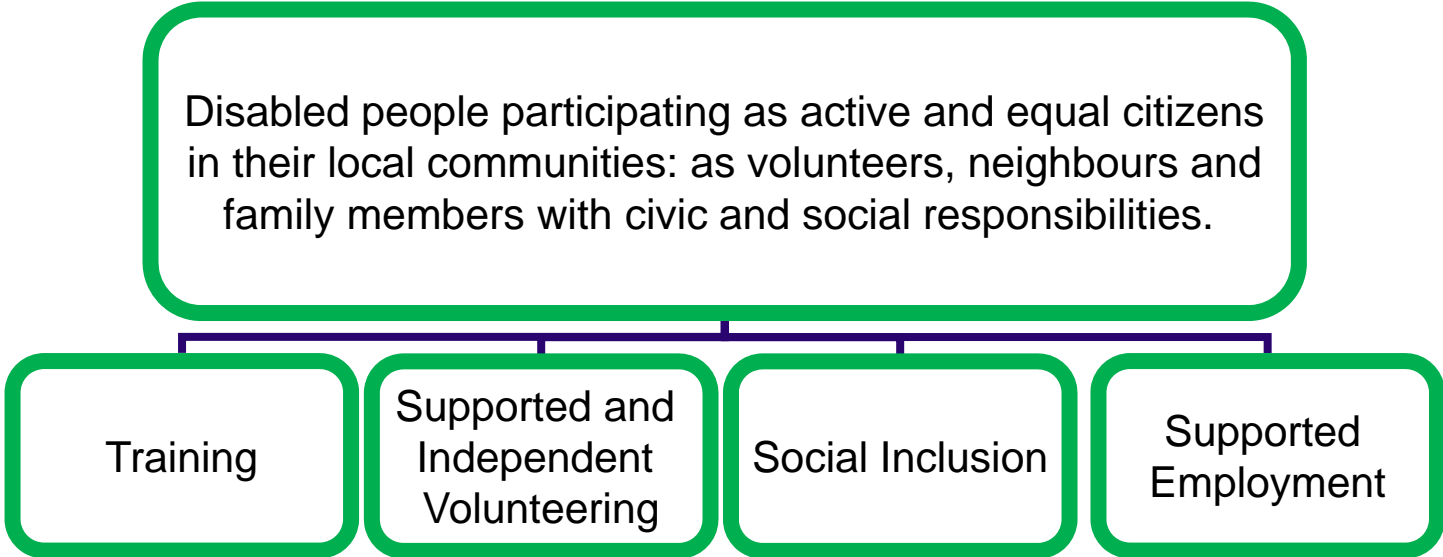
Increase access to volunteering by disabled young people

Improve support systems

Develop roles of real interest and value

Personalised approach

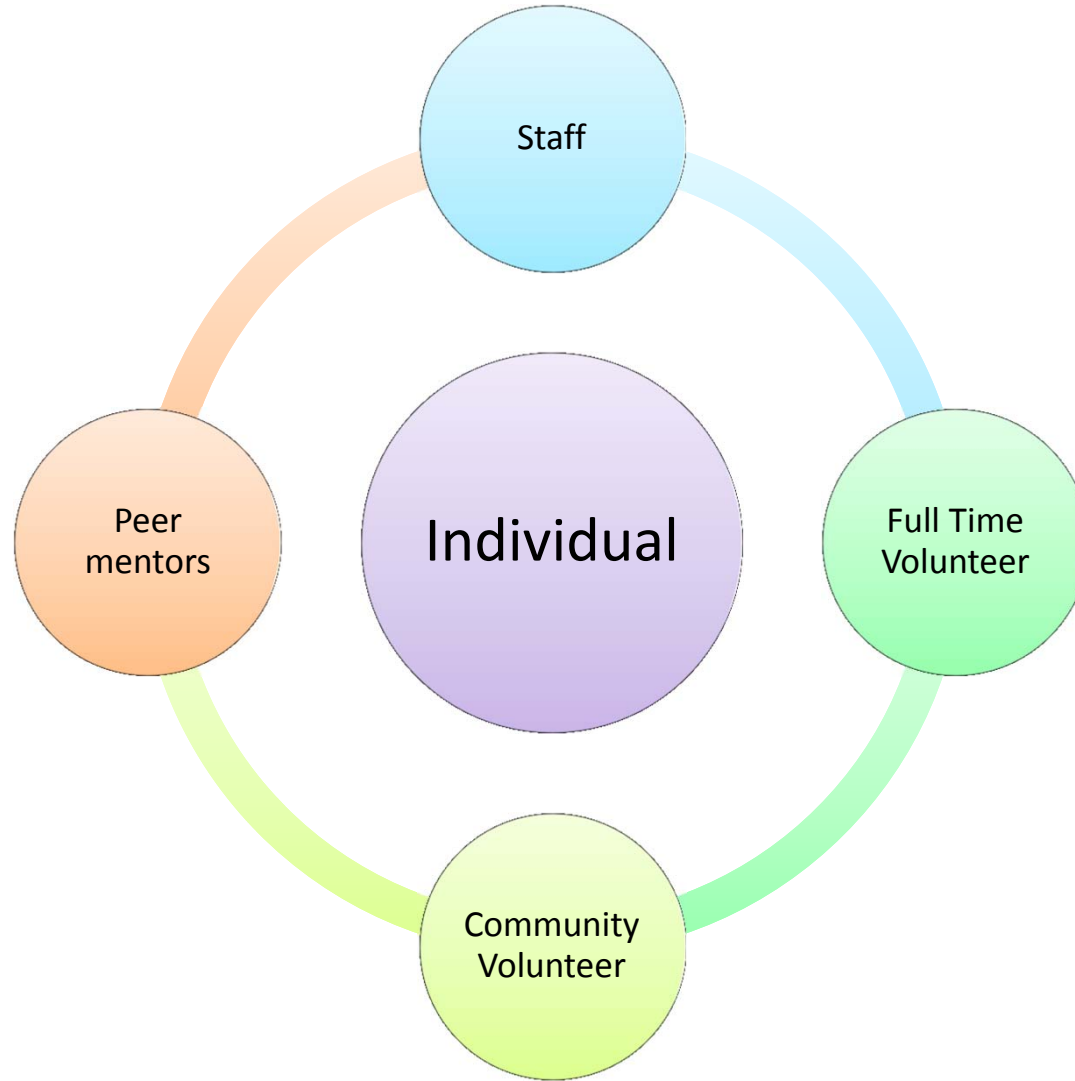
Supported Volunteering



Ethos

- Focus on an individual's ability
- Choice and control – develop your role with the individual, match their abilities to your needs
- Make them feel valuable and valued
- Build capacity through mutual support networks – mentors, 'buddies'.

Support Structure



Supported Volunteering for Young People

- To enable young disabled people to develop a personalised, informed pathway through Transition
- To enable young disabled people to play an active part in their communities
- To enable young disabled people to acquire new skills
- To enable young disabled people to become independent
- To enable young disabled people to access mainstream activities

‘It is important that young people with special educational needs are out and about in the community and are seen to be able to do a day’s work or a project and to see it from start to finish....’ Teacher

Consultation Responses

- 100% of the educational professionals felt volunteering would bring value to both the young person's life and their experience through transition
- 100% of the young people would access this programme
- 100% were able to describe a barrier, including parents, travel and transport, lack of confidence and lack of accessibility (completing forms, process, prejudices)
- 100% were able to describe a benefit of volunteering to them
- Everyone was able to give a personal support need, but added that they would only want it for a time limited period

Discussion

- How can you ensure young disabled people can access volunteering?
- What challenges do you face?
- What support do you need?

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FOR THE COMMUNITY

**LEADING UK
VOLUNTEERING
IN POLICY
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