

## Who are we looking for?

- Anyone over the age of 18 who has enthusiasm for teaching children about gardening and the environment.
- Adults who may have their own experience of gardening and growing their own vegetables.
- Students with an interest in gardening and environmental science.
- People who have some free time and would like to learn new skills
- Parents, Grandparents and carers of children who currently benefit from MGP classes or those who would like this service offered in their child's school.

Remember - Volunteering is very much a two way exchange; the more you give in terms of energy, enthusiasm and time the more you will benefit.

Please contact:

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# Magic Gardens



# Project



## Volunteer Programme

### Why volunteer?

It's enjoyable

It's rewarding

and

**YOU**

can make a difference

## What is the Magic Gardens Project?

The aim of the Magic Gardens Project (MGP) is to promote the appreciation of quality food by providing knowledge of production. Our aim is to encourage the notion that to grow food yourself is surely one of the best things which can be introduced to children and adults alike. Staff at the Magic Gardens Project teach these values in primary schools and Sure Start centres in and around Norwich through environmental education and practical gardening classes.

## Why is it called 'Magic Garden'?

Because, in 1997 when the idea of turning a school courtyard full of broken tarmac into a garden was suggested the school children said "that would be magic". So the project was born.

## What will I do as a Volunteer?

You will assist the MGP staff to carry out their gardening and environmental education lessons. This will range from demonstrating how a wormery composting system works to helping the children understand the cycles of nature.

## What will I get as a volunteer?

- All the statutory training requirements and checks listed on the next page will be paid for
- first hand training in a range of practical gardening skills and environmental issues.
- The chance to meet new people and make new friends.

## What difference will I make?

- You will help to introduce growing your own vegetables to a new generation.
- You will allow staff more time to concentrate on the tasks they have been trained for.
- You will probably promote the project by word of mouth.
- You will enhance and extend the services and expertise provided by the MGP staff.

## All volunteers should:

- Treat all children and young people with respect and dignity
- Concentrate on positive behaviour and celebrate achievements
- Remember as adults we are role models
- Always act in a professional way and not accept bullying, swearing or other disruptive behaviour
- Ensure that children's welfare and safety is paramount at all times
- Liaise with parents & carers
- Be aware of the Project's Child Protection Policy and act accordingly should concerns arise
- Make activities FUN and enjoyable

## All volunteers will be required to have:

- An enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure before going to work in the schools.
- 'SAFE' child protection training
- Two written references
- Health and safety and first aid training.

If you think that you may enjoy working as a volunteer please turn over.

