

Volunteers Children Accompanying on Volunteering Activities

Introduction

This guidance is designed to help keep you and the people we support safe if your child or children accompany you during a volunteering activity.

It is extremely important that anyone who takes their child or children on a volunteering activity for Independent Age understands their responsibilities. As a volunteer with Independent Age, you are responsible for your child or children and for ensuring that they are safe. Taking a child or children to a volunteering activity for Independent Age will not be covered by our insurance.

Independent Age has a duty of care to ensure the safety of both volunteers and the people we support. We want you to feel safe and confident when carrying out your volunteering role. If at any time you are not sure or do not feel comfortable please speak to your Independent Age contact.

What this guidance covers

- **Agreement forms**
- **Risk assessment**
- **Supervision**

Children accompanying volunteers on volunteering activities

Process details

Agreement Form

If you would like your child or children to accompany you on a volunteering activity please get in touch with your local Independent Age contact. They will have a discussion with you and will also speak to the older person you are supporting to ensure that they are happy for your child(ren) to accompany you in your volunteering. We will then ask you and the older person you are supporting to read and sign an agreement form.

Risk Assessment

All people who use our services will have had a risk assessment carried out by the local team before a service is provided. This will give information on the person's level of independence and mobility. Details of this risk assessment will be shared with you by your local Independent Age Contact.

Once the agreement forms have been signed the risk assessment will be updated to reflect that your child(ren) will be accompanying you while you are supporting this person.

If you become aware of a change in circumstance that may affect this risk assessment, it is important you share this information, please let your Independent Age contact know.

Supervision

It is your responsibility to supervise your child or children during any volunteering activity:

- Do not leave your child or children alone with the older person
- Independent Age are not liable for any accidents that may happen if a child or children accompany you on a volunteering activity
- Independent Age are not liable for any damage a child or children may cause during a volunteering activity

If you need more help

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your Independent Age contact if you have any concerns or questions.