

Girlguiding

Middlesex North West county







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Welcome to Girlguiding Middlesex North West

Middlesex North West County is part of London and South East Region (LaSER), which is part of Girlguiding UK, the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK.

We help all girls know they can do anything

Middlesex North West Covers the area of the London Boroughs of Harrow and Hillingdon. We have over 1400 young members who are supported by over 400 volunteers.



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With guiding, girls have fun, adventure and the space to discover their potential.

We're so glad you're thinking of joining us. Thanks to you, we'll be able to help even more girls know they can do anything. And we hope that you'll enjoy everything guiding has to offer too.

Find your adventure

You don't need to have been involved in guiding before or have loads of spare time to make a big difference. Whatever your skills and interests there's a role to suit you.

Volunteer with girls at unit meetings

These roles are perfect if you want to:

- Support girls on a regular basis and see them grow
- Get stuck into adventurous (and often messy!) activities
- Have a rewarding role where you'll develop great relationships with girls and volunteers



Taking on a supporting role

These roles are perfect if you want to:

- Not able to give time every week
- Want to help out casually
- Keen to share a specialist skill such as accounting, managing a shop, admin, marketing and much more...

Taking on a role in Guiding

What will Girlguiding do for me?

- Provide a thorough and appropriate induction to the role and organisation.
- Help to develop skills and abilities to perform the role by providing relevant training opportunities (including e-learning where possible).
- Provide guidance via The Guiding Manual.
- Provide support and development from fellow volunteers, including a local commissioner, Girlguiding advisers, and a mentor while working towards the Leadership Qualification.
- Host meetings and events to share information at a local level.
- Reimburse agreed expenses (agreed locally and may differ around the UK).
- Provide references.

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• Provide a clear complaints procedure and support to resolve problems or disagreements.

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Am I right for the role?

Being a Leader is one of the key roles that support girls and young women to experience how great Girlguiding can be. While we can offer you training and support we would expect you to possess these personal qualities.

- Open and approachable manner.
- Reliable and trustworthy.
- Creative and enthusiastic.
- Committed to ongoing personal development.
- Fun-loving.
- A sense of humour.
- Enjoys working with young people.

Girlguiding welcomes volunteers of all backgrounds, ages, cultures, faiths and abilities. We are flexible, and volunteering can be arranged to fit around a busy lifestyle.

As this role works directly with young people, you will be required to complete a criminal record disclosure check, carried out by a local verifier.

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Taking on a role in Guiding

Being part of your local guiding area

- Be part of a local Girlguiding community, by attending local leader meetings and maintaining a good relationship with other volunteers.
- Develop and maintain clear communications with the local commissioner.
- Encourage more girls to join Girlguiding and support girls as they move on to the next section.
- Promote local, national and international opportunities available within guiding as well as externally, and encourage young members to take part.
- Support the development of young leaders and young volunteers to enable them to access the opportunities available to them as members of Girlguiding

Being part of Girlguiding

- Be committed to undertaking relevant training.
- Learn about the structure of Girlguiding and how your responsibilities and position fit within it.
- Be willing to learn about Girlguiding's national and local strategic aims and how both are delivered locally.
- Learn about Girlguiding's policies and Code of Conduct.
- Be an ambassador for the values of Girlguiding.
- Promoting Girlguiding
- Promote a positive image of Girlguiding at public events and while taking part in activities outside the meeting place.







Who is there to support me

There are many lovely people waiting to welcome and support you.

The county team

At County we have lots of volunteers in Commissioner, Advisors and Coordinators roles to help and support our volunteers in their roles in Girlguiding. Visits our <u>county website</u> to find out more.

Your buddy

A buddy is a great person to be in touch with in the early days. They're an existing volunteer who will help you to settle in.

They are there to offer guidance and support as well as listen and share experiences. They may be volunteering in the same group as you, or might help with the same age group or in a similar role elsewhere. You can meet up for a coffee or just chat over the phone or email.

If you'd like a buddy and haven't been appointed one yet, talk to your leader or commissioner.

Mentors for Leadership qualification

If you're undertaking the Leadership qualification you will also be assigned a mentor. Your mentor is there to guide you through the qualification and make sure you get all the training you need.

Girlguiding volunteers

Other volunteers will be able to provide you with help and support. They'll be your main everyday contacts after the joining process has finished – but feel free to reach out to your local commissioner any time you need advice or assistance.

Other support & communication types?

- Local meetings
- Local training
- <u>The learning Platform</u>
- Newsletters

- <u>Blogs</u>
- Social Media pages
 - Facebook
 - <u>Twitter</u>

Induction checklist

- I've attended a 1-2-1 meeting/welcome event/received a phone call
- I've been introduced to the opportunities available and chosen the most suitable role
- □ I've seen the <u>Welcome to Girlguiding</u> video
- I've completed my disclosure check (if required)
- I've submitted details of two referees
- □ I know who to contact and how if I have a problem
- □ I've been introduced to local volunteers in my unit/area
- I've been made aware of important dates, meetings and learning and development opportunities available to me

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□ I've met with my buddy

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I've been shown websites, social media pages and online groups that I may find useful, including <u>girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen</u>

- □ I know where to find guiding resources
- I understand where I fit in the structure of guiding
- My contact details and best way to contact me are up to date I've been given a tour of the building my unit uses*
- I've been made aware of any upcoming training and development opportunities
- I've been told how to submit an expenses claim
- I've talked to my commissioner about what I need to wear
- I've completed A Safe Space training Level 1 & 2

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I've visited a unit*

*if you're volunteering in a unit

Contact us

County Commissioners - Jennifer Maidment <u>countycomm@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk</u> Assistant County Commissioners - Marian Brown & Jade Fardon <u>assistantcc@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk</u> Enquires Coordinator - Emma Calderbank <u>enquiries@girlguidingmiddxnw.org.uk</u>



