

Pursuing Independent Paths

Pursuing Independent Paths (PIP) is a small charity that supports adults with learning disabilities to achieve their potential. PIP is based in Westminster, but works with people from several different boroughs in West London.

Lots of information about PIP, including staff profiles and a detailed description on what they do, can be found on the website www.piponline.org.uk. PIP's YouTube channel also has several videos that explain what PIP does daily: www.youtubecom/pipldn.

PIP has 4 different services both in its own buildings and within the community that aim to bring about the following:

- PIP students increase their levels of independence
- PIP students increase their life skills
- PIP students improve their social skills
- PIP students increase their community interactions
- PIP students increase their health and wellbeing
- Parents and carers experience increased happiness and wellbeing

Volunteer tasks at PIP

PIP's mission is to support adults with learning disabilities to lead as independent a life as possible. The role of Student Support Volunteer involves providing support during PIP sessions to both groups and individual students. This is an important role that supports all of PIP's students to increase their independence and life skills through engagement in several different activities.

Supporting students to achieve their potential by taking part in PIP sessions, including:

- Assisting Development Workers to deliver PIP's internal programme of accredited training
- Supervising and supporting PIP students during educational sessions at PIP to ensure they get the most out of their sessions
- Supervising and supporting PIP students during non-structured time such as morning, afternoon and lunchtime
- Working alongside groups or individual students as directed by the relevant Development Worker or Sessional Worker to help students improve their skills by completing tasks as independently as possible

Working with the PIP team to ensure that PIP maintains a high quality, responsive service and provides a safe and supportive environment for service-users, volunteers, and staff, including:

- Being an ambassador for the charity by always promoting PIP in a positive manner
- Always safeguarding the health and safety of service-users and staff by reporting immediately any significant issues according to PIP's policies and procedures as well as using proactive strategies
- Working within the framework of PIP's policies and procedures to ensure a high quality of service
- Ensuring the confidentiality of all information connected to service users, volunteers, members of staff and PIP's business
- Always Ensuring excellent Equal Opportunities practice

The volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of adults with learning disabilities by supporting PIP's small and welcoming team to teach sessions aimed at improving their independence and life skills.

PIP volunteers assist in supporting students with learning disabilities to achieve their potential. The volunteer works closely with the staff team to deliver teaching sessions in Literacy, Numeracy, Art, Cooking, Computers and Drama as well as much more, helping the adults with learning disabilities that PIP supports to increase their skills and independence. The volunteer will be enabling PIP students to take part in a variety of activities that will improve their social skills, life skills, and health and wellbeing, as well as increasing their interactions within their local community.

PIP volunteers are important and highly valued members of a small team, so this is a great placement for anybody looking to gain experience in the health and social care sector, while making a huge difference to the lives of PIP students.

Volunteers can expect to learn new skills in a challenging but rewarding role, gain training and experience related to working with people with learning disabilities, and to have great fun making a big difference!