

## **Involving Young Volunteers**

It's important that age doesn't become a barrier to getting involved and engaging with us as an organisation. We actively encourage Local Networks to involve young people in their activity, but it is essential that this is done in line with the Charity's current safeguarding policy and guidance.

Crohn's & Colitis UK has a duty of care that makes the safety of children and young people under the age of 18 a priority. With that in mind, we have set the minimum age for volunteering on Local Network Organising Teams as 18 years of age. This is also due to the responsibility involved in these roles.

Those under 18 can become involved in activities as 'Local Network Event Volunteers' but will be required to be accompanied by their responsible adult at all times. In this case both the child and their responsible adult will need to apply to be volunteers. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer unaccompanied volunteering opportunities for young people under the age of 18. This is for the safety and protection of everyone, including our valued volunteers.

Where those under 18 are acting as Event volunteers they must

- Not be given sole responsibility for any activity
- Not be left unattended with any task
- Not be out of sight of their responsible adult accompanying them

For more information on Safeguarding including our policy and further guidance please go <u>here</u> or contact the <u>Volunteering Team</u> if you have any questions.

Reviewed: August 2024