



# Why does Norwich School do Community Service?

- It is a fantastic way of investing in the community in and around the Close and Norwich.
- By creating partnerships with different organizations we are also able to invest in our pupil's broad and varied education.
- It adds to the foundations of scholarly young people through providing the opportunity to appreciate the experiences of others.

# Why do Community Service?

- Being involved in your community acts as a pivot for your career. It may confirm what course you want to do at university or job.
- Equally it may encourage you to look in to a completely new direction.
- It offers you experience for your CV of leadership and service.
- It will change your perspective in more ways than one.

# The Options

**Allotments** – Join the team of pupils who run the Norwich School Allotments. The allotments are by the Lower Close Tennis Courts. The extensive allotment area is used each year to grow a wide range of plants, some of which are sold to raise funds for school charities.

**Art + Design** – An extended key creative option is available this year. The Art and Design department have developed a wide range of creative opportunities for pupils interested in working in the creative industries in the future as well as pupils who just want to develop their skills. The options involve an architectural outreach project, planning, designing, curating and publicising exhibitions in the Norwich School Crypt as well as other options.

**Aspire** – This is a new leadership option that will enable you to develop skills in event design and management. You will help plan and run a leadership conference and evening leadership seminars, as well as teaching leadership in the Lower School.

**Big C** – This charity is aimed at helping those with cancer in Norfolk. There are various roles on offer that will help you develop a wide range of business, interpersonal and creative skills. You will have a choice of working in the charity's shops, at HQ in the finance and marketing teams, or up-cycling garments/ goods for sale.

**Care for Children** – This is an international charity based in the Cathedral Close. They work with national governments in Asia, to get orphaned children out of institutions and into foster families. The charity is expanding quickly and needs creative help with its communications. There is also the opportunity to engage in awareness raising and fundraising.

**Care Homes** – Pupils volunteer to support residents through taking part in a wide range of activities such as board games, music, reading, and creating recollection folders. Through engaging with residents pupils learn how to communicate with the elderly including some with physical disabilities or dementia. This is an option that is open to all but those thinking of careers in medicine, nursing or similar jobs should consider this or a similar option. The homes students volunteer in include: Corton House, Leonard Cheshire, St John's and Edith Cavell Day Care Centre.

**Cathedral** – There are three main options at the Cathedral. You can work in the Cathedral shop, Cathedral Refectory or be part of the Cathedral Welcoming team. You will get training to help with the roles in the teams.

**City Centre Projects including Sports Outreach** – Here you can be involved in a wide range of projects in the local community from running sporting activities to working in a community café and helping with children's music and art groups. Pupils have helped to run a holiday sports camps too.

**Community Maths** – If you are interested in maths and want to tell others about it then this is the option for you. You will learn new and innovative ideas to teach maths through games and other fun ways of learning. You will have the opportunity to go on trips to teach in primary schools.

**Community Politics** – This year is the start of the new Politics Society. Get involved in changing the World!

**Connects and Co** – This organisation supports young carers who have to look after their ill parents. There are options that take place within school time, and also activities outside the school day such as a vibrant youth club. You would have time to work at school if you were volunteering outside school time.

**Creative Writing** – This option will involve learning about and developing creative writing ideas for a range of different groups including residents at care homes and primary school groups then taking part in leading creative writing workshops.

**Dance** – Dance within community service offers individuals the chance to be trained to teach, choreograph and develop an understanding of how dance production is constructed and realized in performance. There is the opportunity to run the Lower School dance club and be part of the planning of the Dance Festival.

**Design Magazine** – pupil start up magazine. If you are interested in writing this could be an exciting project for you.

**Drama - Spiral** – The club continues again this year with opportunities to take part in helping devise and run drama activities and productions for junior students. This option would suit a wide range of students and in particular those involved in Theatre Studies.

**E23 Radio** – Join the E23 radio team. You can learn about running a radio station in this option. There are lots of different roles involved in running a radio station from interviewing, editing and designing. This option would be suitable for all sorts of students particularly those interested in broadcasting in the future.

**English** – This charity supports non-English speakers to integrate into the Norwich community through learning English, many of whom are refugees. They run English language and conversation classes, as well as an art group. Students who select this option will be teaching assistants in lessons. This is a good option if you are planning on becoming a teacher in this country or abroad, a social worker, or want to develop your cross-cultural communication skills.

**Film in the Community** – This option will allow you to learn about film making, editing and be involved in recording events in the life of Norwich School and beyond. This would particularly suit students interested in graphics, photography and, of course, film.

**Hall Special School Play + learning sign language** – Again this year pupils will prepare a play with students for the Hall School. The Hall School is a school in Norwich for students with significant and complex needs such as severe learning needs. As ever there will be chances to prepare for and, take part in, the Special Schools Carol Service in the Cathedral, and to learn sign language too.

**History in Norwich School** – Over the last year students in the Sixth form have worked on a new project that is gathering together information about Norwich School, its students and life in the Second World War. The project will see a new exhibition being opened in the old air raid shelter under the main playground. This work is continuing and the option will work on specific history projects. There is an opportunity to learn extensive research and presentation skills as well as getting design, recording and film experience.

**La Casita - Latin American Charity Project** – This charity, which is working in Buenos Aires Argentina, is making a huge difference in the lives of slum children. In this option you will be planning ways to raise funds, put on events and make links with children in the day centre and the people connected with it.

**Language Assistants** – Each year pupils get involved in our Languages Departments to help the junior language classes with their studies.



**Language Leaders** – This is a relatively new option. It leads to a formal qualification. You will have the opportunity to develop your own language skills with training and support. You will mentor junior students as they learn their chosen language and be trained as you do so. You will learn key skills for future language studies and presentation skills by helping run workshops

**Law in Action** – Interested in studying Law or training as a lawyer? If so, this option is for you. The option includes learning about current legal issues, visiting and observing cases in Court, preparing for and taking part in mock trials, learning research skills and presentation skills and hearing from visiting speakers about their work as lawyers.

**Library** – This option involves volunteering in the Norwich School library and assisting the team with their work at the Lower School to help young pupils reading in a reading club.

**Mandarin Club** – This option is for Mandarin speakers and those who would like to learn Mandarin. You can go on trips to teach Chinese culture and Mandarin to pupils in Primary Schools. This group also works hand-in-hand with the Care for Children team to raise the profile of the work of this charity.

**Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind** – This charity has a wide range of activities for students to be involved with, such as helping the visually impaired residents with using IT, recreational activities, and communication.

**Peer Supporters – (U6 pupils only)** If you are a Peer Supporter you will use your Community Service periods for training, and for planning events and other activities.

**Polymath** – Miss Ziegler has advertised this creative course generally already and there is an opportunity to use your Community Service time to undertake the course. You can learn practically about theatre and film, getting hands on experience in a wide range of activities such as lighting, costume and sound as well as drama. The list is extensive and is partly driven by what those taking part want to do. It is a course that would help students interested in working in the creative industries but it is open to all.

**Puppet Theatre** – This is a new option on offer. There will be opportunity for you to help in the Theatre's administration office – tasks will depend on priorities on the day but will include keeping online listings up to date; preparing and overprinting publicity materials for visiting shows and their own shows which are on tour; assisting with data-entry for archiving project. Also there will be opportunities to help with sorting and preparing materials for their outreach workshop activities.

**RDA – (Thursday afternoons only)** Riding for the Disabled has been a very popular option over recent years. You will have training and help with riding classes for people with disabilities.

**Rowing and Boathouse** – You will train as a coach and then help junior rowers take their first strokes on the rowing machine and also work with the school coaches at the river. You can help get a new junior indoor rowing league established too. There will be opportunities to run rowing taster sessions too.

**RSPCA** – Are you planning to go in to veterinary medicine? Why not do your Community Service volunteering for the RSPCA? You will be working at their charity shop on Magdalen Street. Small animal vets especially need good people skills. This option will help you develop them.



**Schools** – Our pupils visit local schools and get involved in a wide range of activities. These are as diverse as from helping in class activities such as with reading and maths skills, to sport and creative options such as drama and art. This will give you experience with teaching and working with children.

**Scouts - Norwich School** – This option is based at Scout HQ. It involves working on projects and preparing activities together with equipment for Scout nights and events. In addition you will have the chance to learn a range of practical and organisational skills. This would be suitable for Explorer Scouts but is not limited to them.

**Self-Generated** – If you have arranged a Community Service activity already for yourself or would like to organize your own option then please speak with Mr Watts on how this might fit with the Community Service programme.

**Sew & Sew** – This new group aims to use both machine- and hand sewing to make the world a better place! Sewing is both practical and relaxing as well as an excellent outlet for creativity in these pressured times, and is experiencing an upsurge in interest generally. We will share our skills and, in doing so, seek to improve them. The group hopes to a) create textile furnishings for the school chapel; possibly b) initiate 'start to sew' lessons for primary children in some local schools; plus c) put into action other ideas from the students themselves.

**Special Olympics** – The Special Olympics movement works with children with special learning needs to help them take part in sport. You can help Special Olympians participate in athletics, cricket or skiing (only Sunday afternoons and ski competency required). An opportunity to support their fund raising team, plan and execute activities, is also on offer.

**Sport** – You will be trained and supported by the Sports Department to coach school teams and do outreach coaching sessions with other schools and clubs.

**Street Child of Sierra Leone** – Street Child is a Community Service charity which works to get children living on the streets in West Africa into education and foster families. Here you would work with volunteers from the charity in preparing workshops and assemblies for local primary schools. There are other fundraising options too and some may even want to take part in the Street Child Marathon in Sierra Leone!

**Total Ensemble** – This activity is a drama workshop with an organization that brings together a diverse range of performers. You would be helping work with students from outside the school who have a range of physical disabilities in this exciting and challenging opportunity. You can be involved in supporting the drama workshop or perform in it. There are weekly workshops and rehearsals in Community Service time. If you would like to be involved in performances there are opportunities for that too.

## What you thought

"It helped me with teamwork skills and improved my communication skills"

"Watching the children I teach grow in confidence and improve their skiing skills"

"Cooperation and respect is very important when we are working in a team"

"I learnt I am able to have conversations with people even if at first it seems as though we have nothing in common"

## What our organisations thought of you

"The girls really embraced their roles supporting our Young Adult Parent Group"

"The lad we had working with us was utterly charming who quickly and easily settled into just joining the class each week and getting on with it. During English he was always very happy to work with a group encouraging discussion and prompting learners who seemed reluctant to participate"

"Our residents really miss the pupils when the volunteering finishes"

"The work which the volunteers did enabled us to complete an important project which we could not have done without their help"

*For more information contact:*

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