



# Volunteering in education and training

Krakow, Poland

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# Volunteering is...

- *An important expression of citizenship and fundamental to democracy. It is the commitment of time and energy for the benefit of society and the community and can take many forms. It is undertaken freely and by choice, without concern for financial gain'*

# **4 Key Principles of Volunteering**

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- 1. Choice**
- 2. Inclusion**
- 3. Reciprocity**
- 4. Recognition**

## **Some UK volunteering statistics**

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- 25% of adults once a month
- 2 out of 5 people volunteer once a year
- Value to the economy of £21.5 billion
- Interest is growing in volunteering
- Reductions in funds for volunteering and 'Big Society'
- More volunteers in public service

## **Some UK volunteering trends**

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- Short term
- One-off
- Employee volunteering
- Retired people volunteering
- Youth-led volunteering
- Sport
- Education
- Arts, culture, heritage
- Health and social care
- Environment

## **Developing skills through volunteering**

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- More soft skills than hard skills
- Team working
- Personal confidence
- Motivation
- Communication
- Time management
- Motivating self and others
- Leadership
- Social and political action - citizenship

## **Social inclusion**

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- Informal learning
- Recognising prior learning
- Overcoming barriers to the job market
- Keeping socially engaged in networks
- Being active and involved

# Recognition

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- Thanks and appreciation
- Certificates
- Accreditation