Volunteering Opportunity
Family Link Host
Main Contact
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Volunteering opportunity
This role links local families with international students (usually two*) as part of the University’s Welcome Programme. Its purpose is to provide friendly support to students during their stay in Nottingham, to help them get to know the local community and to take part in a cultural exchange.

*We have found that many people prefer to entertain two students, as the students tend to be more at ease when invited together. The scheme is open to international students, academic visitors and sponsored researchers who are here for more than 6 months. They may participate as single students, or take part with their spouse and/or children.

Who will suit this opportunity?
This role is suitable for alumni and non-alumni volunteers from the local area* who are willing to offer hospitality to international students (and their family if applicable) for around 3 hours each term (a total of 3 times per year, or more often if the volunteer/student wants).

Whilst your student preferences will be considered, you will need to be happy to host students from a variety of backgrounds, cultures and ethnicities – please be flexible.

*Volunteers will need to be residents in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire (within a reasonable distance of University Park campus, NG7 2RD)

Date, time and expected number of hours
There is an introductory event on Thursday 1st November, during which you will meet your students for the first time. More details about location and timing to follow.

Meetings are then arranged once per term (or more if desired by the volunteer/student) at mutually agreeable times by hosts and students (for around 2 - 3 hours a time).

Expected total number of volunteering hours: 9 - 12 hours across the academic year (from October onwards).

Role
We require volunteers who are willing to offer hospitality to international students from many cultural backgrounds, to help them settle into life in the UK and experience British life and culture. We are looking for volunteers to introduce the student (and their family if applicable) to typical British experiences. Example activities: a walk in the local area, followed by tea and biscuits, a trip to a museum or art gallery, Sunday lunch at your house, a coffee or a dinner invitation one evening. The sky’s the limit!

Recruitment process and timelines
If you are interested in the role please complete and submit an application form by Sunday 30th September 2018. Some basic checks will then take place and, if your application is successful, you will be asked to sign a volunteer agreement. You will then attend our matching event with students on 1st November. Please contact givingtime@nottingham.ac.uk for more information.