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INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

A Home-Start volunteer should normally be a parent or have parenting experience with an understanding of the problems and pleasures of family life.

Volunteers should:

- ✓ Have parenting experience
- ✓ Have a positive attitude to working with people from different backgrounds, cultures, nationalities, religions, age groups and those with a physical or mental ability/disability
- ✓ Demonstrate a sensitive and caring attitude towards others
- ✓ Have a non-judgemental attitude
- ✓ Be clear about confidentiality and when a confidence remains so, but be able to decide when disclosure of a confidence is essential to the well-being of the child
- ✓ Be reliable and understand the importance of reliability to the family
- ✓ Have good communication skills including an ability to listen
- ✓ Understand the need for support
- ✓ Have a warm and open personality and a sense of humour
- ✓ Have time and enthusiasm for Home-Start
- ✓ Be able to work as a member of a team
- ✓ Be prepared to keep records as requested by the scheme.