

# GET AHEAD WITH VOLUNTEERING

**Sally Phillips, BSc Business Analytics Student  
& Action Tutoring Volunteer**



With aspirations of building a career around data and analytics, tutoring may not seem like an obvious choice as an activity but the opportunity to volunteer immediately caught my attention. Alongside studying Business Analytics, I spend my free time enjoying activities like playing badminton and going to the gym as well as playing the piano. My motivation to volunteer as a tutor stems from a desire to contribute to the community which can be done within the time constraints of student life with Action Tutoring. Having previously tutored before, I was drawn to this opportunity because I knew it was within my capabilities and could remember the rewarding feeling of tutoring young people. This is not a requirement however, as Action Tutoring offers much training and useful tips which have helped me develop as a tutor. Throughout my school life, I was fortunate enough to feel excitement from learning new things. This is another reason why I chose to volunteer. Education is an exciting opportunity that should be available to all young people, and it is important to encourage enthusiasm for it. Unfortunately, not all schools and communities have the resources to provide a thorough education, so it is important to help where possible.

The programme coordinators for Action Tutoring are extremely helpful and friendly, providing many resources for you in addition to offering useful advice. Seeing a student's understanding develop is extremely rewarding and provides many memorable moments during sessions. It is fulfilling to see the young people's confidence grow as the sessions continue. One highlight for me is the first time one of my students, who was previously very shy, volunteered to answer a difficult question. Although this may not sound monumental, hearing them offer to have a go at something they were unsure of felt amazing. This resonated with me particularly because I was quite shy growing up and still remember to this day the role models that helped my confidence grow. The personal aspects of tutoring like building self-esteem are just as important as the educational aspects.

Volunteering as a tutor has taught me a lot too and seeing the young people's resilience has inspired me to improve mine! When tutoring several students, you must often find different ways to communicate ideas because not everyone understands things in the same way. Tutoring has helped increase my communication skills, my confidence, my time management and organisational skills. All of which I will carry into my next sessions, jobs, and life. Volunteering as a tutor is not only beneficial to the students but also to yourself and your personal development. Therefore, if you are looking for a new opportunity, I would definitely recommend volunteering with Action Tutoring as you get to help the community whilst meeting remarkable pupils and achieving self-improvement.

